PUNJAB STATES GAZETTEERS.

VOLUME VIII.

PART A.

# GAZETTEERS OF THE SIMLA HILL STATES.

1934.

COMPILED AND PUBLISHED UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF THE PUNJAB GOVERNMENT.







Lahore :
Printed by the Superintendent, Government Printing, Punjab.
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# BHAJJI STATE, 1934.

CHAP. I. B.

History.

Brahmin in village Galthani who used to be one of the spiritual leaders of the chiefs of the state. It shows that the family of the present Rais traces back from Kodan Got Rajputs. They had their estate in Nanda Ban and Katler in Kangra District. There was one Raja Susharm Chandar of Nanda Ban who, when he could not keep Nanda Ban in his control, his brother (sic) Ude Pal left the place and came and settled in village Kiari in the state on the banks of the river Sutlej. He watched the affairs of the people with an intelligent eye. He found that the people were turbulent and recognised nobody as their chief. They were called Mavis. Ude Pal, acquainting himself with the affairs of the Mavis, struck up a friendship with a Brahmin named Sarnoo of the village Mandhor in the state and with his aid obtained sway in several villages, so much so that he brought under his control some portions of the Koti and Madhan states, and also the Parganas Chandra and Phagu of the Keonthal State. He established his capital at Mool Bhajji village. After him in the twenty-ninth generation Thakur Sohan Pal founded the village Soni and transferred his capital to that village from Mool Bhajji. Thakur Sohan Pal's grandson Thakur Chandar Pal bestowed the ilaqa of the State Koti on his younger brother as jagir and the latter established the capital of his State at Mool Koti which is very near to Mool Bhajji. In the thirty-second generation Thakur Alam Chandar conquered the ilaqas of the Kangal and the Sangri States and amalgamating them with his own State established his capital at Khat No. 1. Thakur Alam Chandar was succeeded by Thakur Amar Chand, who in his time got his ilaqa surveyed and named the unit of measurement as leah. In the thirty-fourth generation Thakur Jai Chandar with the aid of the Raja of Bashahr invaded the Suket State and burned several places. In the thirty-sixth generation Thakur Deep Chandar reigned. Raja Sahib of Bilaspur persuaded this chief to return the ilaqas of Kangal and Sangri to Raja Man Singh of the Kulu State, and got waived in his favour the tribute which the Bhajji State used to pay to Raja Man Singh. In this Thakur's time Chadara, Phagu and Madhan were also relinquished. In the forty-second generation Thakur Amrit Pal was the chief who fought with success with the Raja Sahib of Kulu. He is said to have invaded also the pargana Kemli of the Keonthal State and burnt several villages. It is also said that he conquered the Dhami State whose chief got back his ilaqa on suing for mercy."

The country was over-run by the Gurkhas from 1803 to 1815, and on their expulsion Rana Rudar Pal was confirmed in possession of the state by a sanad dated 4th September 1815. Rana Rudar Pal, however, 14 years before his death made over the state to his son Ran Bahadur, and retired to Hardwar. Ran

Bahadur ruled till 1875 when he was succeeded by his son Durga Singh, born in 1842. Durga Singh died in 1913, and was succeeded by his son Rana Bir Pal Singh, the present chief, who was born in 1906. CHAP. I. B. History.

## SECTION C.—Population.

Tribes and castes. The population is, as in the other hill states, composed chiefly of Kanets with an admixture of Rajputs and Brahmans. No special description of these is required.

Religion. The best known place of worship in the state is the temple of Kali on the top of the Shali, a conspicuous hill opposite Mashobra 9,406 feet above sea level. There are nine other temples elsewhere in the state. The hot sulphur springs in Suket State near Tatta Pani, beyond Suni, to which the people of Bhajji resort, are associated with the worship of the god Shiva.

One of the springs is actually on the Bhajji side of the river.

Manners and Customs. The descriptions of manners, customs and occupations given in the gazetteers of neighbouring states, and of the Simla District, apply equally to Bhajji.

Fairs. The two principal fairs are those held at Suni, the capital of the state, at Baisakhi and Dusehra. Both of these are attended by inhabitants of the surrounding states, and also by spectators from Simla. Small fairs are also held in certain villages during the month of Baisakh (April).

# CHAPTER II.—Economic.

## SECTION A.—Agriculture, including Irrigation.

Agriculture is of the usual type in tracts lying in the Sutlej valley. The fields on the sunny plateaus overhanging the river are extremely fertile especially when helped by irrigation from the numberous side streams. Those higher up the side of the valley are less so, and there is the usual proportion of poor stony ground which yields one crop of inferior grain once every two or three years. CHAP. II, A. Agriculture.

On the irrigated plateaus above the Sutlej, and on other irrigated lands adjoining the side streams (kiar), wheat is cultivated at rabi and rice at kharif—chillies, tobacco and onions are also cultivated. In the unirrigated fields higher up the sides of the valley (bakhal), wheat or barley are usually grown at rabi, and maize, koda, bathu, etc., and potatoes, at kharif.

A description of the method of cultivation in Bhajji will be founded in chapter V of the settlement report of 1923.

## SECTION C.—Forests.

The state forests cover some 11,500 acres of which 10,400 acres are demarcated. The greater part of the demarcated forest lies on the northern slopes of the Shali ridge, above the Sutlej, and contains fir, deodar, cypress, oak and chir. Elsewhere in the state there are several small forests containing deodar, kail and chir. Scrub forests containing shisham, acacias and bombax (typical trees of the zone) are found along the Sutlej. Nearly all the large deodar and cypress trees were found to have been felled in 1907 when for the first time the state forests were brought under Government supervision and a working plan was prepared. Forests.

The forests afford free grazing to a large number of cattle, sheep and goats belonging to the state villages, and in addition large numbers of nomadic graziers from the upper hills also pass through each year, the state levying grazing dues.

The annual net surplus income from the forests between 1911 and 1933 has been on the average Rs. 7,400 per annum.

## SECTION G.– Communications.

There are two main roads in the state. Of these the first is the Public Works Department road running from Simla through Roads.

CHAP. II. C. — Communications.

Naldera to Suni, and on to Tatta Pani, on the Sutlej, a couple of miles or so beyond Suni; below Basantpur there branches off this road another road to Chaba, the Simla municipal electric power station on the Sutlej above Suni—this branch road is maintained by the municipal committee. The second road of importance in the state is the Simla-Hemri road which within the boundaries of Bhajji is maintained by the state forest department. Both the above roads are suitable for horses and rickshaws. There are also mule roads connecting Suni with Halog, the capital of Dhami, and Arki, the capital of Baghal. A couple of miles below Suni, at Tatta Pani, the Sutlej is spanned by an iron bridge which carries the Simla-Tatta Pani road into Suket. This bridge was originally constructed by the Bhajji and Suket states jointly, and it is jointly maintained by the two states. The other important bridge in the state is the Hailey bridge which carries across the Nauti khad below Mashobra the path running from Mashobra to the Shali villages and Madhan State.

Rest-houses.

There is a state rest-house at Suni, and a Public Works Department rest-house at Basantpur. The Simla municipal committee also maintain a rest-house at Chaba.

Postal.

There are post offices at Suni and Chaba.

# CHAPTER III.—Administrative.

## SECTION A.—Administrative divisions.

CHAP. III. A. — Administrative divisions.

The state is divided into four parganas—Barail, Chhotail, Chautha, and Suraj—each under a zaildar. There are in all 37 lumberdaris, and in each lumberdari there is also a chowkidar who receives no pay but is exempted from begar.

## SECTION C.—Land revenue.

The first measurement of the cultivated area in the state was carried out in 1826 in the time of Rana Rudar Pal; the results were amended in certain respects in 1841 by Rudar Pal's son Rana Ran Bahadur—on neither occasion however was a record of rights prepared. Entries in Hindi in the bakshi khana bahis (books of the state agent) regarding the land revenue to be paid by each proprietor were considered a sufficient record of possession, and were indeed the only revenue papers existing at settlement 1923-24. The land owners as a class did not before 1923-24 possess full proprietary rights in their holdings which were liable to be taken away from them at the discretion of the darbar and given to persons offering a higher nazrana. The unit of measurement was the leah that is to say the area which a certain amount of grain would suffice to sow.

The first regular settlement was carried out in 1923-24 by Rai Sahib Pandit Laiq Ram, a Government naib-tahsildar, whose services were lent to the state. In accordance with the system in adjoining states the karam of 54 inches was adopted as the unit of measurement, and the acre was made equal to 5·38 bighas. The total area of the state was found to be 59,456 acres, out of which 18 per cent., or 10,532 acres, were found to be cultivated. Of the cultivated area 9 per cent. (or 948 acres) was irrigated. The average annual rainfall as shown by the municipal committee's rain gauge at Chaba on the Sutlej is about 40 inches, but in the higher tracts of the state the rainfall is certainly heavier.

For assessment purposes the whole state was at settlement treated as one circle; and arable land was divided into eight classes, according to quality, the details of which are given in paragraph 23 of the settlement report. The average khewat or joint holding is 107 bighas including both cultivated and uncultivated land, out of which on the average 19 bighas are cultivated. The average proprietor possesses 46 bighas in all out of

CHAP. III. C.

Land revenue.

which 8 are cultivated. Eighty-one per cent. of the total cultivated area is tilled by the owners themselves, and 19 per cent. by tenants, including tenants working on state lands—(sehal or basa).

The chief was entered at settlement as the ala malik of all lands in the state whether cultivated or uncultivated. The cultivators were entered as adna maliks where they were found to have given nazrana for their lands, to hold pattas from the state, and to have paid land revenue. A proper record of rights was prepared in accordance with the system in force in the Punjab, and this is now kept up to date by a trained revenue staff. The total land revenue of the state is Rs. 40,000, round, of which half is collected at each harvest—this excludes Rs. 4680 assigned. The rates per bigha on the different classes of lnd are as follows :—

| | Rs. | A. | P. |
|---|---|---|---|
| *Irrigated.* | | | |
| Kiar I .. .. .. .. | 1 | 8 | 0 |
| Kiar II .. .. .. .. | 1 | 3 | 0 |
| Kulhant I .. .. .. .. | 1 | 6 | 0 |
| Kulhant II .. .. .. .. | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| *Unirrigated.* | | | |
| Bakhal I .. .. .. .. | 0 | 11 | 0 |
| Bakhal II .. .. .. .. | 0 | 7 | 0 |
| Tikar I .. .. .. .. | 0 | 4 | 0 |
| Tikar II .. .. .. .. | 0 | 2 | 0 |
| Ghasni .. .. .. .. | 0 | 1 | 0 |

## SECTION D.—Miscellaneous revenue.

Revenue, other than land revenue and cesses, totals about Rs. 30,000. The main items are forests Rs. 7,400, begar compensation Rs. 2,500, and stamps Rs. 2,000. Contracts of various kinds, including excise contracts, bring in about Rs. 6,00 0 per annum, and there is an income of about Rs. 700 per annum from fines.

## SECTION H.—Police and Jails.

The state police force consists of 1 sub-inspector, 2 head constables, 6 constables, and a clerk. The police station is situated at Suni.

CHAP. III. H.

Police and jails.

The state jail is also situated at Suni. It has an establishment of 1 havildar and 4 jailors; its superintendent is the state medical officer.

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## SECTION I.—Education and literary.

There is an anglo-vernacular middle school at Suni in which there are 7 teachers and about 100 students. There is also a primary school in each of the four parganas, *viz.*, at Basantpur in Barabal, at Dhaneshar in Chotabal, at Kalnol in Chautha, and at Karyali in Saraj.

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## SECTION J.—Medical.

There is an up to date hospital at Suni under the charge of a retired Government assistant-surgeon. The hospital has accommodation for 6 in-patients. The state also employs the services of a trained vaccinator.

CHAP. III, G.

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# BAGHAL STATE, 1934.

# CHAPTER I.—Descriptive.

## SECTION A.—General.

CHAP. I, A.

General.

The Baghal State.

The State of Baghal ranks next to Keonthal among the Simla Hill States.

Origin of the Name.

The origin of the name is doubtful. According to one account it is a perversion of Gabhal, meaning the central part of the country, that is to say, the centre of a group of States. A more plausible suggestion is that it is corrupted from Baghar, the name of the clan to which the founder of the State belonged. The same clan is supposed to have given its name to the neighbouring State of Baghat which was originally Bagharghat, and to Garhwal, an abbreviation of Bagharwal. But such theories are probably based on mere conjecture.

Arki.

The capital of the State is Arki, a picturesque town twenty-one miles from Simla by road. Its buildings are clustered below the fort, an imposing structure on the southern slope of a precipitous hill. The town includes a small stretch of level ground, of which its inhabitants are proud, a number of temples and tanks, and a garden noted for its almond trees; the population is 1,159 souls.

Description.

The area of the State is 124 square miles, the larger part of which is in the basin of one of the tributaries of the Gambhar. This latter is an exceptionally fertile tract, sloping from the wilder mountains on the north, which guard the Sutlej, southwards into the rich valleys below Sairi and Subathu. To the north the State is bounded by the Sutlej and the towering highlands of the small State of Mangal; on the east it adjoins the States of Dhami and Kunihar, while those of Nalagarh and Bilaspur complete its borders on the west.

Climate.

The climate is healthy and epidemics are rare. The heat of the valleys favours the prevalence of Malaria in the summer, and the cold of the mountains that of pneumonia in the winter.

Fauna.

The fauna are those of the lower Himalayas. The Kalij pheasant, barking deer and wild pig are common. Leopards are less so. Bears are found in the Harsony, Manjathal and Binoli forests of the Harson Dhar on the Simla side of the Sutlej. Leopards occasionally visit these forests. Sambhur breed in some parts of the State, near Arki.

## SECTION B.—History.

CHAP. I, B. — History. Origin of the ruling family.

The ruling family traces its descent from Aje Deva Panwar, Rajput, who came from Ujain, and carved out for himself this kingdom in the hills. His descendants have kept their blood singularly pure, and have had considerable difficulty at times in finding wives of equally untained descent. They have married much with the Bilaspur family.

History. Rana Jagat Singh.

The Gurkhas overran the State between 1805 and 1815 and for seven years the then Chief, Rana Jagat Singh, lived in exile in Nalagarh. After the Gurkha campaign he was restored by the British Government, and confirmed in possession of his State by a sanad, dated 3rd September 1815, which bound him to assist with troops in time of war, and to keep his roads in order. This sanad is still in force with one modification, by which an annual tribute of Rs. 3,600 (calculated at the rate of Rs. 3 per man) has been accepted in lieu of begar or forced labour.

Raja Kishen Singh.

When the Mutiny broke out, Rana Kishen Singh helped to guard the road from Simla to Jullundur, where the 3rd, 33rd and 31st Bengal regiments had mutinied, and sent a party to Simla under his brother Mian Jai Singh. For their services the Rana and his brother were rewarded with handsome khillats, and the title of Raja was conferred upon the former.

Raja Moti Singh.

During the 19th century the State was ably and vigorously administered on the whole. Raja Kishen Singh reigned till 1876, and was succeeded by his son Moti Singh, who however died the following year. A squabble as to the succession ensued, which was ultimately settled by the Supreme Government in favour of Dhian Singh, son of Mian Jai Singh.

Raja Dhian Singh.

Raja Dhian Singh was a fine specimen of a hill Chief. He was one of five brothers, and at first it seemed as if the usual dissensions were inevitable. Amity was, however, secured by the Raja allowing his brothers the larger share in the administration, though he wisely kept himself aware of all that was done. Nevertheless disaffection arose in 1897, abetted no doubt by the lesser jagirdar, but openly fostered by one Kishen Das, who, having collided with the State Courts, became a bold and successful free-booter. Another party of the malcontents consisted of the Brahmins of Badog village, who complained of oppressive assessment of land revenue and of insufficient grazing land. Matters eventually became so serious that in 1902 the Superintendent, Hill States, had to intervene.

The Regency.

Two years later Raja Dhian died, leaving as his heir Tika Bikram Singh, a boy of eleven years of age. The management of the State was entrusted to Mian Man Singh, brother of the late Raja, and for some years his Wazir.

Rebellion of 1905.

In the next year, 1905, trouble broke out. Relying on court intrigue for support, almost the entire Kanet population rose in rebellion against the regent and his brothers. The Superintendent was obliged to interfere once more, and the upshot was that M. Sher Singh, a Naib-Tahsildar belonging to the Kangra District, was associated with Mian Man Singh as joint Manager. This arrangement worked well. A regular Settlement was completed in 1908 under the supervision of Mian Sher Singh.

The above joint management was superseded in 1909 by the appointment of a Manager, Rai Sahib Hakim Singh. The State continued under management until 1921, when Raja Bikram Singh was given restricted powers to rule the State with a Wazir who was previously Manager. Raja Bikram Singh died in 1922, leaving Tika Surindar Singh, a minor 13 years old as his heir, and the administration of the State was entrusted to P. Warat Chand, formerly Raja Bikram Singh's Wazir, as Manager. He was succeeded in 1927 by Lala Khan Chand.

Tika Rajindar Singh was born to Raja Surindar Singh in February 1928, Kanwar Devindar Singh in September 1930, and a third son, Kanwar Mohindar Singh, in December 1931.

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## SECTION C.—Population.

The census figures of Baghal State are as follows :—

| | |
|---|---|
| 1901 | 25,720 |
| 1911 | 26,008 |
| 1921 | 25,099 |
| 1931 | 26,352 |

Population is naturally denser in the valleys than on the uplands.

Principal Tribes.

The leading tribes are Rajputs, Brahmins and Kanets.

Rajputs.

All Rajputs holding land are jagirdars, and with three exceptions are blood relations of the Chief. As agriculturists they are described as extravagant and idle, and many of them are deeply in debt. They are strict and orthodox in their customs, and their women observe parda.

CHAP. I, C.
—
Population.

Brahmans.

Brahmans are of two classes: Sasani and Dharebar. The Sansanis are generally muafidar and are of a distinctly higher class than the Dharebars. They will not admit the custom of rit, *i. e.*, transference of wives to others on payment of money to their legitimate husbands, and do not sell their daughters. They are lazy and indifferent cultivators. They will marry Dharebar women, but will not give their own daughters in marriage to Dharebars, not will they eat food cooked by a Dharebar. Dharebar Brahmans practise all the customs of the Kanets, rit, widow marriage, etc., and only differ from them in wearing the janeo or sacred thread. Sasanis serve the Rajputs, and Dharebars the Kanets and lower castes. A Rajput will take water from the hand of a Dharebar, but not rice or other food of a superior kind.

Kanets.

The Kanets are the most numerous tribe in the State, and hold two-thirds of the total cultivated area. Their principal sub-divisions are Pabarwal, Jalanu, Rehwani, and Geloti. They are industrious cultivators, and many of them earn money in Simla as labourers or servants. Those who remain at home are often litigious and quarrelsome, and the history of the State goes to show that intolerance of authority is a characteristic of its people which is often in evidence.

Other Tribes.

Other tribes are Kolis, Chamars and Chanals. These, as elsewhere, are hardworking drudges. They hold about three per cent. of the cultivated area and for the most part earn their living as labourers.

Artizans.

There is a sprinkling of the ordinary artisan classes, Lohars, Badhais, etc. These require no special notice.

Muhammadans.

The only Muhammadans are Telis, Mirasis, and others of like humble occupation who live in Arki town.

Religion.

There is nothing noteworthy about the religion of the people of Baghal. Their customs are of course Hindu; their gods are the local deities that preside over every hill and stream. Superstition has a firm hold in the State, and its rulers have long been noted for their subservience to Brahmans. It is estimated that one-seventh of the revenue finds its way into Brahmans' hands.

Principal deities.

The principal deities worshipped are :—

(1) Lachmi Narain, whose temple is at Arki. His image is supposed to have been brought from Hindustan by Aje Dev. A jagir worth Rs. 500 is attached to the temple.

(2) Bani Devi. Her temple is at the village of Gharnum and a fair is held in her honour on the 1st Jeth.

CHAP. I, C — Population. Principal deities.

(3) Bara Deo, who has a temple on the Bari dhar, a ridge running in a north-westerly direction from Bahadurpur fort in Bilaspur to the junction of the Gambhar and Jol streams. The temple is on the highest point of the ridge, 6,789 feet above the sea level. A fair is held on the 1st Asarh. The god is properly Shiva, but as is usual he is generally called by the name of his place of worship.

(4) Har Sang Deo, whose home is at the highest point of the Har Sang dhar, which runs northwards to the Sutlej on the boundary of Baghal and Bhajji States. This god's fair takes place on the 1st Sawan. He too is Shiva.

(5) Mandhor Deo. His temple is at the village of Mangu, where a fair is held on 1st Baisakh. This deity was originally a sonless man, a class of person whose spirit the hillman often considers it advisable to conciliate by worship after death. Such a spirit sometimes, as in the present case, rises to the position of a god in course of time.

(6) The Duhgli deota, whose temple is on a peak of the Darla dhar, a smaller range running from south-east to north-west through the centre of the State, parallel with the Bari dhar. A fair is held on the 1st Asauj. Duhgli is the name of the place. The temple was erected over the tomb of an Udasi fakir of noted piety. It is a resort of Udasis, and the local people have converted the original saint into a god.

All the above temples are aided by revenue grants by the State.

Fairs.

The only annual gathering of any importance is held on the occasion of the Sairi festival at Arki on the 1st Asauj. Its chief characteristic is buffalo fighting.

Dashehra.

A darbar is held by the Chief on the Dashehra, and money offerings are made by the State officials.

The Holi.

A peculiar custom is that there is no official observance of the Holi, owing, it is said, to a Chief having once died during this festival. But as Tika Rajinder Singh was born to Raja Surindar Singh during the Holi, the prohibition against observing the festival is now lifted.

# CHAPTER II.—Economic.

## SECTION A.—Agriculture, including irrigation.

CHAP. II, A.

Agriculture, including Irrigation.

Agriculture: Soil.

The soil of the State is on the whole of excellent quality. A considerable proportion of the cultivated area is irrigated, and the un-irrigated land in most parts yields comparatively heavy crops. The pargana of Rohang is the poorest in this respect, containing only barani land, and that of a gritty and unfertile quality. The richest abi land is that of the Dhondan ilaqa, which marches with Bilaspur.

Classes of soils.

The zamindars divide the soils into six classes as follows :—

(1) Kiar, land which is fully irrigated from made water-courses.

(2) Sanjiar, land irrigated by water collected in pools during the rains, the supply of which does not last later than the sowing of the wheat crop.

(3) Bakhala Kiar, fields which are occasionally flooded by streams or watered by the dripping from other fields.

(4) Bakhal andarli, land situated near the homestead and heavily manured, bearing two crops a year, or at least three crops in two years.

(5) Bakhal baharli, land at some distance from the home-stead, scantily manured, and bearing one crop a year of superior grain, either wheat or maize.

(6) Kultherni, land on which an inferior crop, such as Kulath (dolichos uniflorus), is grown every year or every other year. This classification has been adopted in the regular Settlement. The first three classes have been called Kiar 1st, 2nd and 3rd, and the other three Barani 1st, 2nd and 3rd.

Kharif crops.

The kharif crop proportions are as follows :—

Maize 55, rice 16, koda (Eleusine coracana) or Mandwa 6 and other crops 23 per cent. Other crops include ginger, of which a small amount is produced. It is however, a valuable asset and is always sold. Rice too is generally sold. Several varieties are grown, the chief being zira, kashiatu and jhinjan. The last-named is superior in quality to the others.

Maize is the staple food grain in the State.

CHAP. II, A.

Agriculture, including Irrigation.

Rabi crops.

Wheat was at Settlement the principal spring crop. A certain amount of barley is also grown. The percentages are wheat 92, barley 5, other crops 3.

Kharif sowings.

The planting of potatoes and the sowing of kangni (pennisetum Italiçum) for the autumn crop commence about the 15th March. Other autumn crops, except rice, are sown from 1st April to 15th June. The seed is put into the ground by the latter date, even in the case of barani lands, irrespective of whether rain has fallen or not. Rice is sown from 15th June to 15th August.

Rabi sowings.

The sowing of the spring crop is carried on between 1st October and the end of December. Irrigated land is finished by the 15th November, but the barani area is not sown until rain falls.

Method of cultivation.

Except in the case of rice the method of cultivation is of the simplest description. The land is ploughed once or twice after having been watered, if possible. The seed is then sown broadcast (chhatta) and the soil levelled with the sohaga or clod-crusher.

Cultivation of rice.

Rice is cultivated in two ways. One is to soak the seeds and then bury them in the earth until they germinate. After that the shoots are planted in a field which has been ploughed, levelled, and flooded knee deep. The other is to sow the seed thickly in a nursery, and then, after about a month, transplant the young shoots into another field, putting them in groups of two or three. Occasionally rice is sown broadcast like other crops.

Manure.

In the kharif, fields are manured before being sown. In the rabi, manure is put on after the crop has sprouted.

Agricultural population.

The whole population is dependent upon agriculture, except the few shop-keepers, artisans, and officials in Arki and Dhundan. Brahmans till their fields, and Dharebars are not exempt from begar. Leading Rajputs will not touch the plough, and their land is cultivated by tenants, usually of the menial castes (Kolis, etc.).

Rents, Wages and Prices. Indebtedness.

Many of the zamindars are in debt, but as a rule the money has been borrowed on the security of milk-kine, and only eleven per cent. of the cultivated area is mortgaged. Most of the mortgages are held by sahukars in Arki, Khatris and Boheras. A few of the wealthier Brahmans and Kanet landowners lend money and prosper. The universal rate of interest is 12·5 per cent. per annum. The period within which suits for recovery of debts can now be brought is six years.

Cattle are of the ordinary hill breed and are plentiful. There is an average of one milch animal to every two of the population. Goats and sheep number 9,826. Horses and mules are imported, not bred locally. The area of grass and grazing ground is ghasni 21,422 acres, and banjar Qadim 40,591 acres. As the number of stock of all kinds, excluding sheep and goats, is 41,258, there is ample pasturage.

**CHAP. II, A.** — **Agriculture, including Irrigation.** **Live-stock.**

**Irrigation.** Baghal and Baghat are the only two hill states, which possess any considerable amount of irrigated land. In Baghal the irrigated area is twenty per cent. of the total cultivated area. Irrigation is by kuhls or artificial streamlets, which the zamindars construct for themselves. Hence no water rate is charged by the State.

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## SECTION B.—Rents, Wages and Prices.

**Tenancies and rents.** Of the total cultivated area at Settlement one-half was cultivated by owners and one-half by tenants. Twenty-seven per cent. was held by hereditary, nineteen per cent. by non-hereditary tenants, and three per cent. by tenants, who pay no rent, *e.g.*, menial servants, priests, etc. The area cultivated by hereditary tenants includes land made over by the State or by the jagirdars for cultivation on payment of nazrana, and subject to certain conditions. The status of the holders of such land is slightly better than that of hereditary tenants, and approximates more closely to that of representatives of the owners.

**Hereditary tenants.** The rights of hereditary tenants have been fixed in the Settlement with reference to Sections 5, 6, and 8 of the Punjab Tenancy Act, XVI of 1889. Most of them pay as rent the land revenue of their holding with a small additional malikana, and render begar to the State for their holdings.

**Non-hereditary tenants.** As regards non-hereditary tenants the general rule seems to be that kind rent is paid for good land and cash rent for bad. Exceptions are found in the two Pobar parganas, where tenants pay cash for the best land.

**Kind rents.** The batai or kind rent rate is nearly always one-half of the grain, the whole of the straw going to the tenant in all cases. Other proportions of the owner's share are two-fifths, one-third, and one-fourth, but these are rare. On about one-seventh of the area paying kind rents, a fixed amount of grain is paid every harvest to the owner, irrespective of the crop. Sometimes in addition to batai the tenant has to pay half the land revenue as well.

CHAP. II, B. — Wages and prices. Menials' dues.

The dues of the village menials come to about ten per cent. of the crop. These are subtracted before the grain is divided between tenant and owner.

Cash rents.

The average rate per bigha of cash rent is Re. 1-3-3 for irrigated and Re. 0-10-2 for unirrigated land. The tenant has, in addition, to render begar both to his landlord and to the State on behalf of his landlord.

## SECTION C.—Forests.

Forests.

The State possesses thirty-two so-called forests, but they mostly consist of worthless scrub. A few chil and ban trees are to be found in some half dozen of them. A record of rights for the forests has been drawn up, and the State derives a certain income from the sale of the grass, which they contain. Attempts are being made to plant chil, kail and bamboo. Walnuts and pomegranates are fairly plentiful in and about the fields, and the State gardens contain mango trees.

## SECTION D.—Mines and Mineral Resources.

Minerals.

Traces of lead and gallena ore have been found at the villages of Tal and Samoh. Specimens were sent to experts for analysis, but the report was not promising from a commercial point of view, and no workings have been undertaken.

## SECTION E.—Arts and Manufactures.

Arts and Manufactures.

There are no arts nor manufactures.

## SECTION F.—Commerce and Trade.

Trade.

Grain, ginger, opium, ghi, pomegranates, and violets are exported to Simla, Kalka and Rupar, and cloth, worked metal, salt, and tobacco brought back. Otherwise there is no trade.

## SECTION G.—Means of Communications.

Means of communications. Communications.

There are only two practicable roads in the State. These are :—

(1) Twenty miles of the Simla-Bilaspur road, which enters the State from Patiala at Tokana and leaves it at Nalog on the Bilaspur boundary.

(2) The Bilaspur-Subathu road, which runs through the State for sixteen miles from Sheli to Kiarevan on the Kuni naddi.

CHAP. II, C.

Means of Communications.

These two roads are connected by a branch road from Arki on the Simla-Bilaspur road, six miles long. There are a few other paths which can be traversed by mules. All roads are kept up by the begar system of forced labour. A good rest-house for Europeans is maintained at Arki.

Postal.

There is one Post Office in the State at Arki, where a post between Simla and Bilaspur arrives and is despatched every day. There are three delivery peons, one for Arki and two for the neighbouring villages.

# CHAPTER III.—Administrative.

## SECTION A.—Administrative Divisions.

CHAP. III, A.

Administrative Divisions.

Sub-Divisions.

There are seventeen parganas in the State, and these have been defined from very ancient times. Formerly there was a kamdar in every pargana, who collected the revenue, and generally acted as the agent of the Chief. Raja Dhian Singh, finding this system inconvenient, abolished the kamdars, and divided the State into four tahsils—Arki, Darla, Dhundan and Sarli. A tahsildar was placed in charge of each. At the present time, however, a Revenue Officer with headquarters at Arki is directly responsible for the Revenue Administration of the State.

There are 425 villages, 32 forests, and 76 lumberdari circles and 80 lumberdars. There are also 9 zaildar circles and as many zaildars. There are 13 patwari circles, with 13 patwaris and 1 Field Kanungo. There are 63 chaukidars.

In January 1932, Raja Surindar Singh was invested with full powers, subject to the condition that he retained as Wazir Lala Khan Chand, retired Provincial Civil Service, who had been Manager of the State since 1928.

## SECTION B.—Civil and Criminal Justice.

Raja Surinndar Singh exercises full powers. The law of British India applies. Capital sentences require the confirmation of the Superintendent, Hill States.

Pleaders are admitted in the Courts.

Registration.

Registration is now in force.

## SECTION C.—Land Revenue.

Tenure of land.

Theoretically all land belongs to the State, and individual ownership does not exist. Thus the holder is possessed of a warisi rather than of a maliki. He has a hereditary right to cultivate land allotted to him or his ancestor by the Raja himself, and alludes to his holding as his pattah or lease. It follows that such possession is not transferable at will, and that sales and mortgages require the Raja's sanction. Waste land can be acquired and broken up, only on payment of nazrana, though the pattahs conveying a holding (which includes a portion of grass land) gave an indefinite right of user in adjoining unenclosed

CHAP. III, C.

Land Revenue.

grazing lands and jungle. The right is permanent so long as the holder discharges the duties connected with it, in default of which the land is granted to the bidder of the highest nazrana.

State lands.

In the Settlement, the State has been entered as the absolute owner of the thirteen villages, which are called shahl, of the villages of Arki and Surajpur, where the Chief has residences, and of a certain amount of other land, including all land which is known to have escheated to the State by failure of heirs to the holder, or which has been confiscated. Such land was given out for cultivation on payment of nazrana, but the grantee could acquire no permanent rights, as he was liable to be turned out at any moment in favour of some one who offers a higher nazrana. These were known as Bhet lands. Rules have now been passed by the Government of the Punjab with certain concessions under which these Bhetdars can avert ejectment by obtaining proprietary rights on payment of nazrana at market prices, or by obtaining occupancy rights by paying malkana in addition to land revenue.

Waste lands.

All forests, uncultivated and unculturable land are entered as belonging to the State.

Other land.

With regard to the other land, the Chief is shown as superior owner, and the pattah-holder as inferior owner. An inferior owner has been permitted to mortgage his holding, but he may not sell it without the sanction of the State. A necessary condition of such sanction is that the purchaser must pay nazrana to the State at the rate of Rs. 6-4-0 per cent. on the purchase-money.

Regular Settlement.

The first regular Settlement of land revenue was commenced under Mian Sher Singh in 1905 and finished in 1908.

Former revenue system.

Formerly revenue was assessed in a very rough and ready manner. The unit of land measure was based on the area which could be sown by a certain amount of seed. Such unit was called in some villages taka, and in some jun. It took about six seers of wheat to sow it, and it was equivalent to about a bigha and a half. Revenue was realised partly in cash and partly in grain at an all-round rate of about one rupee a taka. As usual less cash and more grain was taken the better the land and *vice versa*.

In villages owned by the State, and in villages possessing superior lands, the term jun was used to denote the unit of measurement. Elsewhere taka was the name applied. Thirty-two seers of rice in the kharif, and sixteen of wheat in the rabi were the average amounts taken as revenue for each jun, and a little cash was also taken. The revenue rate per jun worked out at something like Rs. 2-8-0.

CHAP. III, C.

Land Revenue.

Miscellaneous demand under the old system.

Other multifarious demands were made in addition to land revennue proper. Parganas in which cotton, oil-seeds, turmeric, ginger, and pomegranates were grown, had to make an extra payment of certain proportion of these crops. The rates were the following per 20 takas of lands :—

| | Seer. |
|---|---|
| Cotton .. .. .. .. .. | 1 |
| Oilseeds .. .. .. .. | ½ |
| Turmeric .. .. .. .. | ½ |
| Ginger .. .. .. .. .. | 4 |
| Pomegranates .. .. .. .. | 1½ |

For the grass fields 240 bundles of grass were demanded by the State for every 20 takas. Each house had to provide a bundle of leaves of the bhewal tree (used as fodder for cattle) and a bundle of sel for making ropes. Each village had to supply two loads of dry wood for fuel and a certain quantity of milk, which was supposed to be for the keep of the State horses.

Cash cesses.

There were two cash cesses, hakk bharaon or lambardari, to defray the expenses of revenue collection, which varied from Rs. 5-8-0 to Rs. 3-10-0 per cent. of the revenue, and malhar, compensation for athwara begar, levied at Rs. 2-3-0 for twenty takas.

Method of collection.

Revenue paid in grain had to be brought to the bhandar or granery at Arki by the zamindars themselves, except in the case of shahl villages, in each of which there was a branch bhandar. Cash revenue was realised by kamdars or lambardars and paid into the treasury through the lambardars.

Abuses of the old system.

The distribution of cash revenue was made village by village and not sub-divided among the holdings. Thus the lambardar could collect it from whom and how he pleased. The men in charge of the bhandar used to exact overweight of grain revenue. The revenue was increased from time to time capriciously. If the inhabitants of a village offended in any way, they were punished with enhancement of revenue. As a result many villages were overburdened to a preposterous extent, and matters eventually reached a pitch, which necessitated the intervention of Government, and the introduction of a regular Settlement.

Revenue of the State at different periods.

In 1864 Raja Kishen Singh reported his income from land revenue to be Rs. 35,000—Rs. 21,170-12-0 khalsa and Rs. 13,829-4-0 assigned. Later on in his reign the gross income, including assignments and cesses, was Rs. 57,500. In 1904 this amount was Rs. 63,778, and in 1906, Rs. 65,045. It was raised in the Settlement to Rs. 69,651, of which Rs. 56,151 are for land revenue and Rs. 13,500 for cesses at 25 per cent.

CHAP. III, C.

Land Revenue.

Land Revenue in 1930-1931 was :—

| | Rs. |
|---|---|
| Land Revenue .. .. .. | 55,748 |
| Cesses .. .. .. .. | 13,937 |
| Total .. | 69,685 |

Rates of the Settlement of 1904.

The Settlement soil rates are as follows per bigha of 900 square yards :—

| | Rs. A. P. |
|---|---|
| Kiar, 1st class .. .. .. .. | 0 14 0 |
| Kiar, 2nd class .. .. .. | 0 12 0 |
| Kiar, 3rd class .. .. .. | 0 10 0 |
| Barani, 1st class .. .. .. | 0 8 0 |
| Barani, 2nd class .. .. .. | 0 5 0 |
| Barani, 3rd class .. .. .. | 0 2 6 |
| Ghasni .. .. .. .. | 0 1 0 |

The demand represented 16 per cent. of the gross produce, and the average incidence on the cultivated area was 8 annas a bigha or Rs. 2-11-0 an acre.

Cesses.

The detail of cesses is as follows :—

| | Per cent. |
|---|---|
| Lambardari .. .. .. .. | 4 |
| Patwari .. .. .. .. | 5 |
| Malhar (compensation for begar) .. .. | 11 |
| School .. .. .. .. .. | 2 |
| Hospital .. .. .. .. | 2 |
| Zaildar .. .. .. .. .. | 1 |
| Total .. | 25 |

The market price of land is now estimated at a multiple of a hundred times the land revenue throughout the State, except in five parganas, where it is half as much, owing to the inferiority of the soil.

Period of Settlement.

The sanctioned period of Sestlement was twenty years. Revision has been postponed owing to lack of funds.

Revenue assignments.

Grants of land, revenue free, are of two kinds, muafi and jagir.

Muafi.

Muafis are held by (1) temples, (2) Brahmans, (3) other castes.

Muafis to temples were granted at the time of their erection, and are continued so long as they exist.

CHAP. III, C. — Land Revenue.

Muafis to Brahmans have been granted on different occasions as charitable gifts. Fixed conditions attach to them, and the muafidar who defaults in his duty on the occasion of deaths or marriages in the Chief's family, or is disloyal, or is outcasted, forfeits his grant.

Muafis to other castes are usually given as a recognition of service to the state and are maintained at the pleasure of the Chief.

Jagirs.

Jagirs are divided into three classes :—

(1) Grants to Rajputs of the Chief's family :—

Each brother of a ruling Chief on his coming of age and marriage is given a jagir on the following scale :—

| | | Rs. |
|---|---|---|
| Eldest brother (Dothayan Mian), Value | .. | 1,500 |
| Second brother (Dothayan Mian) Value | .. | 1,000 |
| Third brother (Dothayan Mian) Value | .. | 700 |
| Fourth brother (Dothayan Mian) Value | .. | 500 |

If there are more brothers each gets a jagir two-thirds of the value of that of his immediate elder brother.

The rule of resumption is that when a second son is born to a Chief, all jagirs except those of the Chief's own brothers are subject to reduction. In the case of jagirs which have not previously been reduced, one-third is resumed ; of other one-fourth. This process continues until a jagir is reduced to the annual value of Rs. 10, after which it remains at this sum.

(2) Grants to other Rajputs—

These are few and were all gifts by the late Raja Dhian Singh in recognition of service. No resumptions have as yet been made.

(3) Grants to the Rani Tikyali—

The mother of the Tika or heir-apparent receives a jagir of Rs. 1,000 for her lifetime. On her death it is resumed.

Similarly the mother of the Chief (Rajmata) enjoys the same jagir during her lifetime.

If the holder of a jagir dies without male issue, the jagir is continued to his widow during her lifetime and resumed at her death. Jagirdars have no right to mortgage or sell their Jagirs.

CHAP. III, C.

Land revenue.

There are several heads of miscellaneous income past and present.

Miscellaneous revenue.

Water mills.

Water-mills are charged for at rates varying from four annas to three rupees annually per mill. Jagirdars and muafidars are entitled to the fees for mills in their own villages.

Nazrana.

Nazrana for unclaimed or confiscated land has already been referred to. Lambardars used previously to pay an annual nazrana which often exceeded the amount of their emoluments. This has now been stopped, and a lambardar only pays nazrana on first appointment, and a nazrana of one or two rupees according to his status on the occasions of the Dashehra festival and the Chief's birthday.

Gali Bahawali.

Formerly if a landholder died without direct heir, his land, as has been explained above, lapsed to the State. Now the land devolves on the collateral heirs, provided that the distance between the deceased does not exceed three generations. If it exceeds this degree, a fee of "Gali Bahawali" equal to double the land revenue on the holding must be paid to obtain possession. If the claimants are unable so prove their relationship to the deceased, the land escheats to the State.

A tax called hakkatrafi is levied on artisans, such as lohars, chamars, nais, dhobis, etc., at rates running from four annas to one rupee annually.

Athwara begar.

Begar or forced labour is another source of income, though indirect. In former times every zamindar possessing twenty takas of land had to render begar for eight days in the month to the State. This was called athwara begar. He had also to give begar on other special occasions. Raja Kishen Singh commuted athwara begar into an annual payment of Rs. 2-13-0 called malhar. Subsequently the burden of service was gradually re-imposed, the malhar payment being still maintained, and persons who wished to be exempted had to make a further annual payment of Rs. 6 for every twenty takas. In the Settlement the matter has been finally settled by the abolition of athwara begar and the imposition of a malhar cess of 11 per cent. on the revenue as commutation. Rajputs and Sasani Brahmans are exempt from the malhar cess.

Other begar.

Begar is now only demanded on special occasions, and every one except Sasani Brahmans and Rajputs is liable to it. Such occasions are :—

(1) Badi-jadi, *i.e.*, marriages and funerals.
(2) Tour of Chief or officials through the State.
(3) Visits of distinguished persons.

(4) When road repairs are necessary or beaters required for shooting. CHAP. III, C.

In the case of (1) and (2) a daily ration is issued to the men working. For (3) and (4) there are no special rules, but a cooly, who is sent outside the State limits, is paid. Land revenue.

The following special customs, involving collection or disposal of money exists :— Special customs.

(1) When the daughter or sister of the Chief is married, every man paying revenue must furnish a chittack and a half of ghi for every rupee of such revenue.

(2) On the occasion of all marriages, every payer of revenue and shop-keeper must sell grain and ghi to the State at special rates. Such rates are two seers for grain and 1½ chittacks for ghi cheaper than the price current.

(3) On the occasions of the Chief's karanbal (first hair-cutting), investiture with the sacred thread, marriage, and installation, and at all funerals in the Chief's household the following dues must be paid :—

(*a*) State officials one to five rupees according to status.

(*b*) Lambardars one rupee.

(*c*) Villages from eight annas to two rupees according to size.

(4) Five per cent. of the State's miscellaneous income used to be paid to the Tikyali Rani. Now the Tikyali Rani receives Rs. 700 in a lump sum as bhistang instead of the above 5 per cent. and the Rajmata receives the same sum.

## SECTION D.—Miscellaneous Revenue.

The people of Baghal are but little given to liquor drinking. Excise.

There is now no still in the State, and no contract is given for the manufacture or sale of liquor.

A certain amount of poppy is grown in the State, but export of opium without a license is forbidden as the produce is inconsiderable, it goes only to the State contractor. No one has ever applied for an export license, and therefore no duty has ever been fixed. At present the contract for the sale of opium is given to a single contractor, who has shops at Arki and in the ilaqa for retail sales under State permission. He purchases his stock from the local cultivators and from the contractors of the upper Opium and Drugs.

CHAP. III, D. Miscellaneous Revenue. Stamps.

Hill States. Charas is sold under a separate contract, and the contractor purchases his stock from Simla or Hoshiarpur contractors under a permit counter-signed by the Superintendent, Hill States.

The State impresses its own stamps and makes no distinction between judicial and non-judicial stamps. The State treasurer at Arki sells the stamps at a discount of 3 pies per rupee, and their value runs from one anna to fifty rupees. Recently judicial paper, locally impressed and initialled, has been introduced.

## SECTION H.—Police and Jails.

Police.

The State Police force consists of one Inspector, two Head-Constables and fifteen constables, one Head Constable performing the duties of Head Muharrir in the Police Station. There is a Police Station at Arki.

Jail.

The State jail is in the same building as the Police Station, and is under the supervision of the Inspector, as there is no separate jail-staff.

## SECTION I.—Education and Literacy.

Education.

There is one Anglo-Vernacular Middle School at Arki with 145 pupils; it has a boarding house, with 20 boarders. There is a troop of boy-scouts in the School. There is also a girls school at Arki with 36 pupils. The male teachers are trained, but the State has not yet been able to secure the services of trained mistresses. There are also 4 village primary schools at Dhundan, Basantpur, Mangu and Manzir and a private Sanskrit and Hindi School at Batal.

## SECTION J.—Medical.

Medical.

There is a hospital at Arki under a retired military Sub-Assistant Surgeon, which is fairly well-equipped.

A trained local dai and one compounder are also on the hospital staff. Government vaccinators visit the State at intervals, or when an epidemic of small pox occurs, and the people take to vaccination quite readily.

## F DECEMBER 1931.

Mian Raghunath Singh,
died 1835.

Rana Sahib Saran Singh
born 27th May 1793,
died 16th January 184

Mian Devi Singh,
died 1854.

Mian Bir Singh,
died September 1887.

Mian Puran Singh,
died 1834.

Raja Kishan Singh,
born 22nd September 181
died 17th July 1876.

Mian Kalian Singh,
died heirless.

Mian Bansi Singh,
born 1877.

Mian Rup Singh,
born 1883.

Tika Moti Singh,
born 25th March 1871,
died heirless on 10th
October 1877.

Mian Hira Singh,
died heirless.

Raja Dhayan
Singh, born
29th January
1842, died 12th
April 1904.

Mia
Singh,
Decem
died

am Singh,
June 1842,
March 1872.

Mian Pardhan Singh,
born 23rd March 1847,
died 17th September 1861.

ian Ranzor Singh,
rn 17th May 1865.

Mian Sher Singh,
born 4th September 1867,
died 13th October 1922.

Raja Bikram Singh,
born 12th March 1893,
died 3rd October 1922.

Kar
Sin

ian Tej Singh,
7th January 1904.

Raja Surendar Singh,
the present Raja,
born 14th March 1909.

Tika Rajendar Singh,
born 28th February 1928.

Hari Singh,
October 1915.

Mian Sundar Singh,
born 18th January 1919.

# DHAMI STATE, 1934.

# CHAPTER I.—General.

## SECTION A.—General.

DHAMI lies some 16 miles west of Simla between 31° 7′ and 31° 13′ N., and 77° 3′ and 77° 11′ E., and bounded on the north by Bhajji on the east and south by Patiala, and on the west by Baghal. Its area is 28 square miles. Statistics of population are as follows:— CHAP. I, A. — General. General.

| | Acres. |
|---|---|
| 1901 .. .. .. .. .. | 4,505 |
| 1911 .. .. .. .. .. | 4,484 |
| 1921 .. .. .. .. .. | 4,786 |
| 1931 .. .. .. .. .. | 5,239 |

(*i.e.*, 187 persons per square miles).

The capital, Halog, is picturesquely situated on a plateau overlooking the Khalli or Devi Nal on the south and the Sutlej valley on the north. The bulk of the State lies on the eastern slopes of the Kainthu Dhar, a ridge running north-west from Jutogh.

History.

The ruling Chiefs are chowhan Rajputs, descendents of the great and illustrious warrior, Prithwiraj Chowhan, and the family suffix, once Pal, is now Singh. The Rana's ancestors were driven from the neighbourhood of Delhi to Raipur in the Ambala District by the invasion of Shahabuddin Ghori in the 12th century, and thence came to Dhami. The State was formerly a feudatory of Bilaspur, but became independent in 1815 on the expulsion of the Gurkhas. A sanad was granted in that year to the chief, Rana Goberdhan Singh, who, as a boy of twelve, had borne arms and fought with General Ochterlony against the Gurkhas.

Rana Goberdhan Singh.

Rana Goberdhan Singh behaved loyally in the mutiny, and his services were rewarded by remissions, for his lifetime, of half his tribute. He died in 1867 and was succeeded by his son Fatteh Singh, to whom the same privilege was accorded in 1880.

Rana Hira Singh.

Rana Hira Singh, C.I.E., succeeded at the death of his father in 1894. He was also granted a remission of half his tribute in 1901. In 1920 he was suceeeded by the present Rana, Dalip Singh, who was invested with full ruling powers in 1930.

The People.

The proprietary classes are Brahmans and Kanets in about equal numbers, and there are practically no Muhammadans in the State.

CHAP. I, A.
General.
Forests.

Dhami State has 2,355 acres of demarcated forests of which 346 acres is chil forest, and 2,009 acres oak. The oak forest is worked for fuel and charcoal by the system of "Coppice", with standards in accordance with the working plan drawn up in 1916. The annual income from the forests is Rs. 8,500. Game in the forests is carefully preserved.

Communications.

A fair road runs through the State from Jutogh to Halog through Ghana-ki-Hatti and continues down to the Bhajji border and so on to Suni in that State. There is also a direct road from Halog which joins the Jutogh-Arki road 6 miles from Arki.

Administration.

The Rana conducts the whole administration himself assisted by one Magistrate and a forest officer.

Sub-Divisions.

The State contains seven parganas :—

(1) Damher, in which Halog is situated, (2) Bari, (3) Parhech, (4) Kamrehr, (5) Nerwa, (6) Seon, (7) Neol.

Land Revenue.

There are 7 parganas in the State and 113 villages. The first regular settlement was completed in 1916. The sanctioned period of Settlement is 30 years. The Settlement soil rates are as follows per bigha :—

| | Rs. | A. | P. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Kiar, 1st class .. .. .. | 1 | 4 | 0 |
| Kiar, 2nd class .. .. .. | 0 | 14 | 0 |
| Kalahu, 1st class .. .. .. | 0 | 13 | 0 |
| Kalahu, 2nd class .. .. .. | 0 | 12 | 0 |
| Bakhal, 1st class .. .. .. | 0 | 11 | 0 |
| Bakhal, 2nd class .. .. .. | 0 | 8 | 0 |
| Bakhal, 3rd class .. .. .. | 0 | 4 | 0 |
| Ghasni .. .. .. .. | { 0 | 2 | 0 } |
| | { 0 | 1 | 3 } |
| Banjar Kadim .. .. .. | 0 | 0 | 6 |

The land revenue according to Settlement of 1916 is Rs. 15,000 and cesses Rs. 3,750 : total Rs. 18,750. The land revenue at present is Rs. 15,574 and cesses Rs. 3,893 : total Rs. 19,467. The detail of cesses is as follows :—

| | *Per cent.* |
|---|---|
| Lambardari .. .. .. .. | 2 |
| Patwari .. .. .. .. | 5 |
| Commutation fee for begar .. .. .. | 18 |
| Total .. | 25 |

Chief Kharif crops.

The Kharif crop percentages are as follows :—

Dhan 7, Maize 61, Koda 14 and other crops 18 per cent. Other crops include ginger, potatoes, onions, mash and kulth.

Chief Rabi crops.

Wheat accounts for 87 per cent. of the Rabi crops, barley 12 and other crops 1 per cent.

Begar.

The begar is taken on the following occasions :—

(1) *Athwara begar.*—This has now been commuted and a commutation cess at 18 per cent. is charged.

(2) *Hela begar.*—This is exacted for special reasons such as on marriage and funeral ceremonies, etc.

(3) Tour of the Chief and other State officials within the State.

(4) Tour of the British Officers and others.

(5) Repairs of the roads and help in the game known as hahir shikar.

(6) Begars of mules, or commutation fee of Rs. 5 per mule per annum.

The begaries get free rations from the State in case of hela and if coolies be sent outside the limits of the State, they are paid at Re. 0-3-0 or Re. 0-4-0 per diem.

Shopkeepers and traders of the State pay atrafi taxes and artizans who hold land for cultivation are required to give begar in keeping with their professions.

Nazrana.

Formerly if a landholder died without collaterals, his land lapsed to the State and the State was at liberty to give it to the highest tenderer of nazrana. But now the land passes to collaterals up to the 3rd degree without nazrana. More remote collaterals have to pay nazrana equal to 4 times the land revenue. Failing collaterals the State may succeed to the land.

On the first appointment, a Lambardar is required to pay nazrana and also on the occasions of Dushehra and Dewali.

There are 7 Lambardars and 7 chaukidars in the State.

Excise.

The present Rana has abolished the sale of liquor and has ordered total prohibition. The contracts for charas and opium bring in an annual income of about Rs. 700.

Total revenue. On the three years' average, the total revenue of the State amounts to Rs. 50,000.

Police. The State Police force consists of one Sub-Inspector, one Sergeant, and eight foot constables. There is a Jail at Halog.

Schools. There is a primary school at Halog attended by some 25 boys only, as Simla and Jutogh are nearer for the village people to send their boys.

Medical. There is no hospital in the State.

Posts. There is a Post Office at Halog, the capital.

# NALAGARH STATE, 1934.

# CHAPTER I.—Descriptive.

## SECTION A.—General.

CHAP. I, A.

General.

HINDUR is said to have been the original name, from Handu, a Brahman, who established his power over the local chiefs and made Hindur, in *pargana* Gullarwala, his capital. Nalagarh, the present capital, was not founded until the 15th century, and was so called because the site of part of the town was a dry torrent bed.

**Situation and boundaries.**

The State lies between 30 54′ and 31 14′ N., and 76 39′ and 76 56′ E., with an area of 256 square miles. It is bounded on the north by Bilaspur State and Hoshiarpur district (tahsil Una), on the east by Mahlog and Baghal States, on the south by Patiala and the Kharar tahsil of Ambala district, and on the west by the Rupar tahsil of Ambala. Two isolated villages lie in the middle of Mahlog State. Nalagarh is divided fairly equally into two tracts Pahar, the hills, and Des, the plains. The Pahar has three *parganas*, Chamba (or Kundlu), Malaon, and Ramgarh, and the Des four, Dharmpur, Nalagarh, Palasi, and Gullarwala. The Des tract lies in the Dun between the Siwalik range and the hills proper, and parts of it are extremely fertile. The Pahar tract is of the usual character of the lower Simla hills.

**Streams.**

The main stream is the Sirsa, which has its sources in the hills above Kalka, and runs north-west along the base of the Siwaliks, eventually joining the Sutlej at Awankot in the Rupar tahsil. It is fed along its course by other streamlets descending from the hills, the principal of which in Nalagarh are from east to west the Ballad, the Pali, the Khari, the Khokra, the Chikni and the Kundlu *naddis*, and also by the Kanahan *naddi*, which rises in the Siwaliks and joins the Sirsa on its left bank in the vicinity of Palasi fort.

**Irrigation.**

The irrigation derived from these streams is uncertain, depending almost entirely on the rainfall in the hills, and they are as a rule at their lowest ebb when water is most needed. An irrigation work of former renown and historic interest is the Kala Kund reservoir, formed by a barrier across the Kala Kund valley, some fifteen miles to the north-west of Nalagarh. It is said to have been originally constructed by the Pandavas, was restored by Raja Sansar Chand in 1618 A.D., and irrigated the lands of some thirty villages. The barrier eventually burst after heavy rains, and unfortunately has never been repaired. *Kuhls* and wells are the only means of irrigation in the Des. Pacca wells are only found in orchards and vegetable-gardens. Kacha wells are found in two or three villages inhabited by Sainis. Every zamindar

CHAP. I, A. General.

has a well on his holding to irrigate his own fields ; they are worked with *dhinglis* to irrigate tobacco-crops. A kacha well only costs from Rs. 30 to 40, as the spring level is only 2 or 3 feet below the surface. An average area of 372 bighas is irrigated by wells. *Kuhls* are by far the best means of irrigation, and an average area of 17,199 bighas is so irrigated. In the Pahar tahsil only 1,797 acres, or 8 per cent. of the total cultivated area, is irrigated.

Hills.

The hills in the State consist of two well defined ridges running from south-east to north-west on either side of the Gambhar river. On the northern and eastern most of these are the ruins of the Surajgarh and Malaon forts, and on the other the Ramgarh and Chamba forts. On neither ridge does the highest point rise to more than 4,466 feet above sea level.

## SECTION B.—History.

CHAP. I, B. History.

The history of the ruling family of the State of Hindur or Nalagarh is included in that of Bilaspur State, whence the Rajas of Hindur, descendants of the elder branch, originally came. Ajai Chand, the eldest son of Kahan Chand, Raja of Bilaspur, lost his birth-right on the succession of his younger brother, Ajit Chand, to that State in A. D. 1100, and resolved to carve out a principality for himself. Having raised a force in his father's kingdom, he invaded the territory of Handu, the Brahman Thakur of Hindur. Handu's cruel and unjust rule had alienated the affections of his subjects, and they welcomed Ajai Chand as a deliverer. Seeing that a hostile force was collected on his frontier, Handu did not wait to be attacked, but with superior numbers fell upon the small and badly equipped army of Ajai Chand. Handu, however, was completely defeated and lost his life in the encounter.

Raja Ajai Chand, 1100—1171 A.D.

Ajai Chand thus established the State of Hindur. He magnanimously performed the funeral rites of the fallen Thakur, and provided for the maintenance of his children, whose descendants are still headmen of Chirauli in the *pargana* of Nawan Nagar. But Ajai Chand did not remain in undisturbed possession of his newly acquired kindgom, for Ajit Chand, who appears to have claimed suzerainty over it, invaded it several times ; but, though with his superior forces he was able to prevent Ajai Chand from regaining his rightful kingdom of Bilaspur, he was not able to oust him from Hindur, and Ajai Chand, by his firm and just rule, succeeded in consolidating his power in that kingdom, which he ruled until his death in A. D. 1171.

Raja Bijai Chand, 1171—1201 A.D.

Bijai Chand, his only son, succeeded when only four months old, and the administration of the kingdom was carried on by his mother. She had to cope with a revolt of the Kanets, who had

CHAP. I, B. History.

grown turbulent under Handu, but were kept under subjection by the vigorous rule of Ajai Chand. At first the *ahlkars* of the State sided with the rebels, but the Rani called them before her, and by an impassioned appeal to their loyalty induced them to aid her in suppressing the rebellion. The Kanets were defeated in several engagements, and did not again venture on open disaffection, but Bijai Chand, on assuming power, had to complete their subjugation. He greatly increased the internal prosperity of his State, and his name is still cherished in the hills for his charities.

Raja Dham Chand, 1201—1236, A.D.

On his death at the age of 30 in A. D. 1201 he was succeeded by his son Dham Chand, also a minor, whose reign was on the whole peaceful, though the Kanets were still turbulent and disloyal at heart. Dham Chand suppressed their gatherings, his object being to put a stop to cattle raiding. In this he succeeded, and his intelligence, even as a youth, made him an efficient and popular ruler. He died after a reign of 35 years in 1236 A. D.

Raja Bairang Chand, 1236—1276 A. D.

Raja Bairang Chand succeeded, and his reign was uneventful.

Raja Lachman, 1276—1306 A. D.

Raja Lachman, a minor, who followed, had to contend with internal rebellion, which he suppressed with firmness when he came of age. He was a sympathetic ruler and earned the gratitude of his subjects.

Raja Utal Chand, 1306—1316 A. D.

Raja Jaimal Chand, 1316—1338 A. D.

Raja Utal Chand reigned ten years and was succeeded by his son, Raja Jaimal Chand, whose judgment commanded the respect of all parties in a dispute.

Raja Amar Chand, 1338—1356 A. D.

Raja Amar Chand was an active administrator, who often moved among his subjects in disguise in order to learn their needs.

Raja Alam Chand, 1356—1406 A. D.

Raja Alam Chand had to face a serious crisis. In 1399 A. D. Timur invaded the Punjab, and, after his massacre at Delhi and his sack of Meerut and Hardwar, marched on his return journey along the foot of the hills, and reached the frontier of Hindur, where he pitched his camp in the open field. Resistance was out of the question, but Alam Chand repaired and provisioned his forts and made every preparation for defence. He then visited Timur in person and offered him a supply of provisions, of which his army stood in great need. This the invador accepted, and his forces pursued their march without inflicting any injury upon the State. Seven years after this event Alam Chand died in 1406 A. D.

CHAP. I, B.

History.

Raja Udham Chand, 1406—1421 A. D.

His son and successor Udham Chand had a peaceful reign and held aloof from the dissensions, which then prevailed among the Hill States, devoting his energies to the amelioration of the lot of his subjects. His younger son Kotak Chand received Chandori in *pargana* Palasi for his maintenance, and his descendants still live there and bear the title of Mian.

Raja Bikram Chand, 1421—1435 A. D.

Raja Bikram Chand, the elder son of Udham Chand, succeeded in 1421 A. D. His three younger sons in turn received *jagirs* in *pargana* Palasi, which were exchanged for *jagirs* in *pargana* Nalagarh, when the town of Nalagarh was founded and became the capital of the State, their residence being transferred from Mainpuria in the former *pargana* to Baili in that of Nalagarh.

Raja Kidar Chand, 1435—1448 A. D.

Raja Jai Chand, 1448—1477, A. D.

Kidar Chand, the eldest son, succeeded to the *gaddi* in 1435, and was a mild and just ruler, who suppressed some feeble revolts with clemency. He also relieved famine with liberality. He died in 1448 A. D. His son Jai Chand was even more famed than his father had been for the justice and the mildness of his rule. He died in 1477 A. D.

Raja Narain Chand, 1477—1522 A. D.

Raja Narain Chand succeeded his father, Jai Chand, while still a minor, and the kingdom was administered by the Rani, his mother. During her regime, the Raja of Nurpur halted near the capital of the State on his way to Hardwar, and was so pleased with the arrangements made for his entertainment that he proposed an alliance between the young Raja and his daughter. His offer was accepted by the Rani, but opposed by the Wazir on the ground that the status of the Raja of Nurpur was not sufficiently high. Upon this the Nurpur Raja married his daughter to the Raja of Bilaspur, and incited that Prince to attack Nalagarh, which he successfully did. Nalagarh was compelled to purchase peace by surrendering the fort of Satgarha, which is still held by Bilaspur.

Raja Ram Chandar, 1522—1568 A. D.

The next Raja, Ram Chandar, was a great builder. He constructed the fort of Ramgarh, and also built the town of Ramshahr, which he made his summer capital. It is said that he used to exact half the gross produce of the land as revenue, and, though this demand may appear excessive with regard to the circumstances of the time, it was apparently realised without hardship. His successor, Sansar Chand, who succeeded, built the handsome *Diwankhana* at Nalagarh, and restored the Kala Kund reservoir, to which allusion has been made above.

Raja Sansar Chand, 1568—1618 A. D.

Raja Dharm Chand, 1618—1701 A. D.

In 1618 A. D. Sansar Chand was succeeded by Dharm Chand the eldest of his eight sons, whose chief measure was a reduction of the State's revenue to one sixth of the produce. An able and just ruler, Dharm Chand reigned for no less than 83 years, dying

CHAP. I, B. History.

Raja Himmat Chand, 1701—1705 A. D. Bhup Chand, 1705—1761 A. D.

in 1701 A. D. He was succeeded by his eldest son Himmat Chand, during whose short reign of three years the Pathans began to make inroads on the Hill States and attacked Hindur three times in rapid succession. Himmat Chand fell, fighting gallantly against the invaders, in a battle in which the Hindus made a desperate resistance and were defeated with great loss. Bhup Chand succeeded his father Himmat Chand and was followed by his son Man Chand.

Raja Man Chand.

The State was now divided by factions, the Mattiana Kanets siding with Man Chand, and the Thuanu Kanets with Padam Chand, younger brother of the late Raja Bhup Chand. Padam Chand assassinated his nephew Man Chand and obtained the throne, but was in turn killed by the Mattianas.

Raja Gaje Singh.

Bhai Kharak Singh of Haripur in Mahlog effected a reconciliation between the factions, and induced Gaje Singh, a distant collateral and refugee, to accept the *gaddi*. He is the founder of the present dynasty and, though a just ruler, was not on good terms with his son Ram Saran. The latter with a band of retainers occupied the fort at Palasi, and lived as a free-booter.

Raja Ram Saran Singh.

Ram Saran Singh became Raja in 1788, and died at the age of eighty-six after a reign of sixty years. In the early part of his reign he had so extended his dominions, that his authority was paramount from Palasi to Mattiana, and eastwards as far as Ajmirgarh on the Jumna; and though he did not conquer Sirmur, Dharma Negi held the Subathu fort for him.

The Gurkha war.

In 1803 the Gurkhas, it is said at the invitation of Bilaspur, came from Nepal through the hills, and broke the power of Ram Saran Singh and all the Hill Chiefs. The famous fort of Ramshahr, which had been constructed by the Chandels before they separated and Nalagarh was founded, was besieged by Gurkhas, and though provided with tanks for rainwater and enormous granaries, the garrison was obliged to capitulate after three years' siege. Ram Saran fled to Basali in Hoshiarpur for three or four months, and then returned to Palasi for ten years, which with Baddi and Gullarwala were the only forts left to him. In 1814 Sir D. Ochterlony brought an army against the Gurkhas into the State; a battle was fought at the pass of Ramshahr and another at Lohar Ghati near Malaun. The British force, English and Purbiah, was encamped for some months near Ramgarh, and eventually, when guns were brought to bear on the fort, the defenders capitulated. In the decisive battle near Malaun Bhagta Thappa, the Gurkha leader, was slain. An English officer, Lieutenant Williams, was killed at Ramshahr, and his tomb is well preserved to this day.

CHAP. I, B.

History.

Restoration of Raja Ram Saran Singh.

Ram Saran Singh threw in his lot with the British, and by his exertions merited restoration to all his former possessions. He refused, it is said, to accept his fresh conquests, and contented himself with his ancestral possession of Nalagarh, as it stands now. The revenue to Hindur from the hill tracts under the Gurkha Government amounted to about Rs. 15,000, but in consequence of the struggles against the Gurkhas it had suffered much devastation, and many families were induced to move to Palasi in the plains. In 1815 the total revenue amounted to Rs. 45,000. In that year the petty district of Bharauli, near Kotkhai, was granted to Raja Ram Saran Singh as a reward for his services, but its distance from Nalagarh, the turbulance of the people, and his own unpopularity in that quarter led him to agree to its transfer to another Chief, the Rana of Balsan, for the sum of Rs. 8,500. The Raja was confirmed by a *sanad*, dated the 20th October 1815. He paid an annual tribute of Rs. 5,000 and was bound to aid the British Government with troops in time of war. Sentences of death passed by him required the confirmation of the Political Officer in charge, now known as the Superintendent, Hill States. After the Nepalese war Raja Ram Saran received an indemnity of one lakh of rupees, when he returned the Satgarha forts to the Raja of Bilaspur from whom he had taken them. This sum he expended in improving and strengthening the fort of Palasi in the plains.

Rajas Bije Singh and Ugar Singh.

Raja Bije Singh succeeded, and on his death in 1857 the State lapsed to the British Government, it was at first decided that the three sons of Raja Ram Saran Singh by his Brahmani wife should be given the *jagir* of the value of Rs. 10,000 a year held by the Rani. In 1860, however, the Home authorities decided to restore the State to Ugar Singh, and he became Raja with full powers. He was the most intelligent of Raja Ram Saran's sons, having acted as Wazir during his father's later years. The British Government guaranteed the *jagirs* of his brothers Fateh Singh and Bir Singh, whose descendants in consequence enjoy the privilege of collecting their own revenues. Fateh Singh was of unsound mind. Ugar Singh was installed in 1860. He received a *khillat* of Rs. 1,120 and paid a *parkhash* of Rs. 1,120 and seven gold *mohars*.

In the earlier part of his reign he administered the State on sound lines, but, when his eldest son, Isri Snigh, attained his majority, dissensions arose. The latter's mother was the daugther of a Mian of Jaswal in the Hoshiarpur district, and was married when Ugar Singh himself was a Mian. After he became Raja, he married the daughter of a Chandel Mian, whose ancestors had

CHAP. I, B. History.

come from Kahlur in Raja Ram Saran's time. She resided at Palasi and was known as the Palasi Rani. Her only surviving son was Kanwar Jagindar Singh, whom Raja Ugar Singh appointed as his successor disregarding the claims of the elder Isri Singh.

Raja Isri Singh.

But on the Raja's death in December, 1876, it was decided that Isri Singh was the rightful heir, and he was installed in June 1877. He was allied by marriage with the houses of Goler, Kangra, and Kuthar. He had been residing at Garkhal near Kasauli during the last years of his father's reign, and was thus handicapped by a limited knowledge of the affairs of the State. All the prisoners were released on Ugar Singh's death, and all the State officials dismissed, but Ghulam Kadir, the former Wazir, was re-appointed. Mian Jagindar Singh was awarded a pension of Rs. 2,060 a year, and his mother suitably provided for. Ghulam Kadir as Wazir imposed new taxes and enhanced the land revenue, thereby causing disturbances, which were only quelled by the Superintendent, Hill States, proceeding to the spot with a force of British police. Ghulam Kadir was subsequently dismissed and banished, from the State. A committee of the old officials was then appointed, and it worked satisfactorily for thirteen years, until dissensions impelled its abolition in 1893, and Jowahir Lal, an official of Nabha State, was appointed Manager. He effected a summary Settlement of the State, but his position soon became untenable and in 1895 Bhagwan Singh was appointed Wazir.

He was a capable man and acted in the best interests of the State, but eventually he too was dismissed. Kanwar Jagindar Singh and Hari Singh subsequently occupied the difficult post, and then a Council was appointed with Babu Sundar Singh as president. On completion of his term of office, his services were dispensed with, and Mian Indar Singh was appointed. Raja Isri Singh died in 1911 without leaving any issue; Kanwar Jogindar Singh, his step-brother, succeeded him in January 1912. The Council, with Diwan Indar Singh as president, continued for three years more. Then Chaudhri Ramji Lal, Naib-Tahsildar, Simla, was deputed to the State as Wazir. In 1918 there was a rising in the Pahari tahsil due to grievances regarding grazing lands and forest regulations. The mutiny was put down with the help of British troops; the ring leaders were sentenced to varying terms of imprisonment, and grievances were redressed, the powers of the Raja being at the same time curtailed. Chaudhri Ramji Lal died in 1919, and Lala Raghubir Singh, Naib-Tahsildar, succeeded him. In 1925 Rai Sahib Pandit Laiq Ram, Naib-Tahsildar, was posted as Wazir in place of Lala Raghubir Singh,

CHAP. I, B.

History.

and the re-settlement of the State was completed. In consideration of the general improvement in the administration of the State full powers were restored to the Raja in 1930, with the reservation that the Superintendent, Simla Hill States, retains the right to scrutinise the State budget.

## SECTION C.—Population.

Population.

The State is sparsely populated, the density being 195 per square mile. The census figures are as follows :—

| | |
|---|---|
| 1901 .. .. .. .. .. | 52,551 |
| 1911 .. .. .. .. .. | 49,230 |
| 1921 .. .. .. .. .. | 46,868 |
| 1931 .. .. .. .. .. | 50,016 |

In former days most of the State was waste, the villages being confined to the valleys, and to the tract south of the Sirsa away from the main routes. Gullarwala *pargana* was a desert. The only habitations were thatched huts, and the people concealed their valuable property in caves. Raja Ram Saran Singh colonised the tract afresh with settlers from the Ambala and Hoshiarpur districts.

Nalagarh, Palasi and Ramshahr.

There are no towns. The capital has a picturesque position at the foot of a hill. A road winds up to the palace, which overlooks the bazar from a precipitous spur. The Raja has two other residences, one at Palasi, and the other at Ramshahr in the hills.

Tribes and castes.

The principal tribes in order of numerical importance are Kanets, Gujars, Brahmans, Sainis, Rajputs, Jats and Labanas. In the plains villages there are a good many Chumars. There is a sprinkling of the ordinary trading and menial classes throughout the State. A certain number of Muhammadans are settled in Nalagarh town. The Gujars, Sainis and Jats live along the Ambala and Hoshiarpur borders. They are immigrants from these districts brought in by Raja Ram Saran Singh. Some of the Sainis came originally from the Jullundur district.

The Jats and Sainis are some Sikh and the others Hindu. They are industrious and quiet. The Sainis especially excel as agriculturists. Their holdings are small, and they devote themselves successfully to the more valuable crops such as tobacco, oilseeds, cotton, and sugarcane, the produce of which they export.

Other tribes.

There is nothing specially noteworthy about the Brahmans or the trading and menial classes. These latter are represented by the following castes, Khatris, Banias, Sonars, Bhabras, Bhattis,

CHAP. I, C.
Population.

Girths, Jhinwars, Lohars, Barhais, Kolis, Chanals, Chamars, Bhanjras, Chuhras, Dumnas, Kumhars, Chimbas and Teli. By far the most numerous are the Chamars, who are the drudges of the Des villages.

Religion.

Nor is there anything special to note about the religion of the State. At Ramshahr below Ramgarh fort is a tank built by Raja Ram Saran Singh and called Rawalsar. Like the Rawalsar in Mandi it contains floating islands. A temple of Kali is close by. On the first Friday in Jeth a fair is held, attended chiefly by women who gather in from all parts of the neighbouring States. The floating islands are worshipped as well as the goddess. Lakhdata (Sakhi Sarwar Sultan) has a *pirthan* in the village of Dehdi, and a fair takes place here in the month of Magh to which Gujars mostly resort. The chief temple in Nalagarh itself is that of Devi. Guga Pir has shrines at Manpur and Nalagarh, where fairs are held in the month of Bhadon.

# CHAPTER II.—Economic.

## SECTION A.—Agriculture, including Irrigation.

CHAP. II, A. Agriculture. General.

The last revision of the Settlement of Nalagarh State was completed in 1927, and the revenue system is modelled on that of the Punjab. There are two tahsils, Des and Pahar, with Tahsildars working under the supervision of the Wazir, who exercises the powers of a Collector in the Punjab.

Principal crops.

In well-manured and irrigated land often a rotation of tobacco, maize, wheat and gram at the rate of 3 crops a year is found. Sugar and paddy are largely grown in Dubbar Kulhant. On Talla II and Changar I land gram, *chari*, *moth*, *mash*, oilseeds and *jowar* are generally sown. In the Pahar, the chief crops in kharif are paddy, maize, *mash* and *kulth*, and in rabi wheat and gram.

Agricultural population.

In the Des, the percentages of the cultivated area possessed by the various tribes are as follows :—Kanets 29 ; Gujjars, Hindu 23 ; Muhammadans 13 ; Sainis 8 ; Brahmans 7 ; Rajputs 3 ; Jats 3 ; Labanas 2 ; and others 12. In the Pahar tahsil the Kanets, who preponderate in number, own 70 per cent. of the total cultivated area, while Brahmans own 10 per cent. Kolis, Chanals and Chamars own 2, 3 and 5 per cent., respectively : they either become servants in Simla, Sabathu, or Kasauli, or carry on some trade or craft. In point of income they surpass all the other tribes, and their standard of living is generally superior. Ten per cent. of the cultivated area is owned by temples, gurdwaras, and other tribes.

Transfer of lands.

Transfers of land between State subjects is permitted on payment of *nazrana*.

Indebtedness and alienations.

In the Des tahsil 6 per cent. of the cultivated area is mortgaged for an average consideration of Rs. 40 per acre. The proportion of land possessed by zamindars and non-zamindars is 7 to 3. In the Pahar tahsil 4 per cent. of the cultivated area is mortgaged for an average consideration of Rs. 40 per acre, against an average sale price of Rs. 33 per acre. Indebtedness is chiefly due to litigation and the purchase of wives and marriage and funeral expenses. The unsecured debt is reckoned as Rs. 3,07,715, which is balanced by miscellaneous income from the sale of ghi, cattle-carrying and service.

CHAP. II, A. — Agriculture. Cattle.

Cattle are plentiful and of good quality. People from neighbouring States come to Nalagarh in large numbers to buy bullocks, buffaloes, etc., in March, when an important cattle-fair is held. The Gujjars trade in buffaloes and have also a considerable trade in milk and ghi. Sheep and goats are principally kept to sell to butchers in the various hill-cantonments. Horses are not bred. Grazing is generally sufficient.

## SECTION B.—Rents, Wages and Prices.

Rents.

Most of the Des, as well as the Pahar, is cultivated by the proprietors themselves : there are no occupancy tenants. The tenants-at-will cultivate 2 per cent. of the cultivated area at owners' rates. The owners have the right of substituting another in place of a tenant who ceases to cultivate the land : the tenants cannot transfer the land to others, nor can they be ejected as long as they cultivate properly. Tenants holding 1 per cent. of the total cultivated land pay cash-rents. Tenants cultivating unclaimed land pay fixed cash-rents. The land tilled by tenants-at-will paying kind rents constitutes 90 per cent. of the cultivated area. A true tenant-at-will without any land of his own is rare. Half *batai* is the general custom. In the Pahar tahsil the total area cultivated by tenants is 22 per cent., of which 11 per cent. is held by occupancy tenants, while 11 per cent. is held by the tenants-at-will. Every tenant pays revenue in proportion to his share of land, and the responsibility of rendering *begar* on behalf of the owner rests on the shoulders of the tenant.

## SECTION C.—Forests.

Forests.

The State has 59 forests, 5 reserved, 30 demarcated, and 24 undemarcated, none containing exploitable timber, though there is a certain amount of chil (Pinus Longifolia). Most of the forests are scrub and bamboo. A working plan was drawn up in 1915 and is still in force. Revision of the Forest Settlement has just been finished, and a report has been submitted to the Government for approval and sanction. The State maintains a Ranger, two Foresters, a clerk, three chaprasis and a staff of 22 forest guards. In 1930 the total income from forests amounted to Rs. 14,011.

## SECTION D.—Mines and Mineral Resources.

CHAP. II, G. — Mines and Minerals.

There are valuable quarries near Nalagarh which were used for the construction of the headworks of the Sutlej Valley Project. In 1931 the permanent way for carriage of this metal was dismantled between Nalagarh and Rupar, and a good chance of

linking Nalagarh with the North-Western Railway system has been lost for the present. There are no other minerals of commercial importance in the State. CHAP. II, D. — Mines and Mineral Resources.

## SECTION E.—Arts and Manufactures.

There are no arts or manufactures, and no trade worth the name. Cotton and any surplus grain available are exported to Rupar, Kalka or Ludhiana, and metals, salt, cloth, etc., brought back. Manufactures and trade.

## SECTION G.—Means of Communications.

There are four main roads: (1) from Nalagarh to Bilaspur, Suket, Mandi, and Kulu with a halting stage and rest-house at Kundlu, 13 miles from Nalagarh; (2) from Nalagarh to Rupar, 14 miles; (3) from Nalagarh to Baddi (10 miles), where there is a halting stage and rest-house; from Baddi the road continues through Patiala territory to Kalka; (4) from Baddi to Patta in Mahlog State, and thence to Simla *via* Kakarhatti and the old Kalka-Simla road. Communications.

The first three mentioned are generally fit for country carts. Beyond Baddi the Kalka road is very bad. The Baddi-Patta road is rough and only fit for mule traffic.

There is an Imperial post office at Nalagarh, and a telegraph office was opened at the same place in 1908. Postal.

# CHAPTER III.—Administrative.

## SECTION A.—Administrative Divisions.

The Des and Pahar tahsils form administrative divisions for Revenue and Police purposes. The Raja has full powers except that the State Budget is open to inspection by the Superintendent, Simla Hill States. The Wazir exercises the powers of a Collector, District Magistrate, and Sessions and District Judge, and immediately subordinate to him are a Judge, and Inspector of Police and two Tahsildars. The law of the Punjab is enforced wherever applicable, and the State has no peculiar law of its own.

**CHAP. III, A.**

**Administrative Divisions.**

**General arrangements.**

The Indian Registration Act is in force without modification, the Registrar being the Council Court. About Rs. 12,000 are paid in fees yearly.

**Registration.**

## SECTION B.—Land Revenue.

The State is divided into two tahsils, which also compose assessment circles—the Des and the Pahar. In both tahsils land revenue was assessed during Settlement operations commencing 1924 and ending 1927, on a basis of classification of soils as follows :—

**Land revenue.**

*(A)—Des Tahsil.*

| Class of soil. | Area in acres. | Rate per acre. | Total demand. |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | Rs. A. P. | Rs. A. P. |
| *Chahi .. .. .. | 69 | 6 0 0 | 414 0 0 |
| *Lahri Kulhant .. .. | 548 | 6 0 0 | 3,288 0 0 |
| *Talla Kulhant .. .. .. | 1,216 | 5 0 0 | 6,080 0 0 |
| *Dabbar Kulhant .. .. | 1,117 | 5 0 0 | 5,585 0 0 |
| *Changar Kulhant .. .. | 247 | 2 11 0 | 663 13 0 |
| Lahri Barani .. .. .. | 4,287 | 3 8 0 | 15,004 8 0 |
| Talla I, Barani .. .. .. | 3,526 | 3 3 0 | 11,239 2 0 |
| Dabbar I, Barani .. .. | 155 | 2 13 0 | 435 15 0 |
| Talla II, Barani .. .. .. | 3,579 | 1 11 0 | 6,039 9 0 |
| Changar I, Barani .. .. | 14,782 | 1 11 0 | 24,944 10 0 |
| Changar II, Barani .. .. | 3,976 | 0 13 6 | 3,354 12 0 |
| Total .. | .. | .. | 77,049 5 0 or 77,000 0 0 |

*Irrigated.

CHAP. III, B. — Land Revenue.

The detail of cesses is as follows :—

| | Rs. | A. | P. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Patwar at 5 per cent. .. .. | 3,898 | 8 | 0 |
| Lambardar at 5 per cent. .. .. | 3,898 | 8 | 0 |
| School at 1 per cent. .. .. | 779 | 11 | 0 |
| Hospital at 1 per cent. .. .. | 779 | 11 | 0 |
| Roads at 3 per cent. .. .. | 2,339 | 1 | 0 |
| Total 15 per cent. .. | 11,695 | 7 | 0 |

*(B)—Pahar Tahsil.*

| Class of soil. | Rate per acre. | Area in acres. | Revenue. |
|---|---|---|---|
| | Rs. A. P. | Acres. | Rs. |
| *Kuhli I .. .. .. | 5 6 1 | 416 | 2,238 |
| *Kuhli II .. .. .. | 4 0 7 | 1,381 | 5,575 |
| Bakhla Kiar .. .. | 3 5 10 | 1,800 | 6,056 |
| Bakhal I .. .. .. | 2 12 0 | 3,698 | 10,170 |
| Bakhal II .. .. .. | 2 10 2 | 5,452 | 14,369 |
| Tikar I .. .. .. | 1 10 11 | 2,883 | 4,850 |
| Tikar II .. .. .. | 0 13 5½ | 6,656 | 5,596 |
| Banjar Qadim .. .. | 0 13 5½ | 1,598 | 1,344 |
| Ghasni .. .. .. | 0 6 9 | 11,045 | 4,660 |
| Total .. | .. | 34,929 | 54,858 or 54,860 |

*Irrigated.

The cesses are as follows :—

| | Rs. | A. | P. |
|---|---|---|---|
| *Begar* 7 per cent. .. .. | 3,839 | 8 | 0 |
| Patwar 5 per cent. .. .. | 2,743 | 0 | 0 |
| Lambardar 4 per cent. .. .. | 2,194 | 0 | 0 |
| Zaildar 1 per cent. .. .. | 548 | 8 | 0 |
| Dispensary 1 per cent. .. .. | 548 | 8 | 0 |
| School 1 per cent. .. .. | 548 | 8 | 0 |
| Total 19 per cent. .. | 10,422 | 0 | 0 |

Land Revenue.

Thus the total revenue of the State is—

| Tahsil. | Revenue. | Cesses. | Total. |
|---|---|---|---|
| | Rs. | Rs. A. P. | Rs. A. P. |
| Des .. .. .. | 77,000 | 11,695 7 0 | 88,695 7 0 |
| Pahar .. .. .. | 54,860 | 10,422 0 0 | 65,282 0 0 |
| Total .. | 1,31,860 | 22,117 7 0 | 1,53,877 7 0 |

The above assessments assumed that the State's share of agricultural produce was 20 per cent. So far these Settlements have worked satisfactorily. Full descriptions of each class of soil are to be found in the assessment reports.

**Water-mills.** No water-mills are allowed to work without permission, and for starting a new water-mill a *nazrana* is taken of Rs. 5. Rents for working water-mills are Rs. 1-8-0 per month in the Des tahsil, and Re. 0-8-0 in the Pahar tahsil. Owners of water-mills supply the Durbar gratis.

**Begar.** *Begar* has been generally commuted and is now limited to—

(a) *Begar* for large camps and for the Raja's touring.

(b) *Begar* on the occasion of deaths and marriages in the Raja's family.

(c) In the Pahar tahsil only, *begar* for the repair of the roads.

**Jagirs.** It has been ruled that *jagirdars* are entitled only to assignment of the land-revenue of their *jagirs*, and that the jagirdar-right carries with it no proprietary right or claim to collect *nazrana* on fresh land broken up for cultivation in the *jagir's* area. *Jagirdars*, however, collect grazing-tax fees and certain other fees in respect of their *jagir* areas.

**Nautors.** The *nazrana* charged by the State for acquiring possession of State lands varies from Rs. 18 to Rs. 5 per acre.

**Selahkhana.** It is a poll-tax realised by the State from shopkeepers and craftsmen; it varies from Re. 0-8-0 to Re. 0-2-0 per annum.

## SECTION D.—Miscellaneous Revenue.

CHAP. III, D.

Miscellaneous Revenue.

Drugs.

Opium is purchased from Bashahr, Balsan and other hill States. The poppy is not cultivated in the State. The lease for vend of opium is sold by auction annually, and the contractor has agents for retail vend at Nalagarh, Barun, and Ramshahr. The licenses for opium and drugs are sold together, but separately from that for country liquor. The average fee is Rs. 7,000.

Excise.

Country spirit is manufactured in the *sadr* distillery at Nalagarh, the lease of which carrying with it the monopoly for wholesale and retail vend in the State, is put up to auction every year. The licensee has retail shops at Nalagarh, Jagat Khana, Baddi, Barun and Ramshahr. In addition to the license fee, a still-head duty of 3 pies in the rupee is imposed. The total excise income is Rs. 4,500 a year.

Stamps.

The British Stamp and Court Fees Acts are in force. Stamps are made at Nalagarh, and issued from the State treasury to an agent at Nalagarh, who is in the service of the State. Judicial and non-judicial stamps are distinguished. The values of each description are anna 1, annas 2, 4 and 8; Rs. 2, 3, 4, 5, 10, 25, 50, 100 and 500. The stamp revenue is about (?).

Total revenue.

The total income of the State averages about Rs. two lakhs a year, including assigned revenue, which is first brought into the treasury, and then paid out again to the assignees.

## SECTION F.—Public Works.

Public Works.

A regular Public Works Department is maintained to look after the State buildings and roads. The Palace at Nalagarh is an imposing building overlooking the town, and includes a Diwankhana built about 1570 A. D. There are some interesting old forts in the State, Palasi in the Des, and Ramgarh, Chamba and Malaun in the hills.

## SECTION G.—Army.

Army.

There are no regular State forces. The Raja has a bodyguard of ten or eleven horsemen, and a few sepoys. These are armed with sword and lance. In addition there are some palace guards.

## SECTION H.—Police and Jails.

Police.

The State has 2 police-stations, at Nalagarh and Rawalsar, and *chaukis* at Baddi, Kundlu and Gullarwala. At Nalagarh there are one inspector, one sub-inspector, 3 head-constables,

CHAP. III, H.

Police Jails.

and 27 constables, while one sub-inspector, one head-constable and 10 constables are stationed at Rawalsar. There are two constables attached to each *chauki*. The Wazir acts as Superintendent of the force.

Jails.

There is a jail at Nalagarh with accommodation for fifty prisoners, and under the charge of a jailor with a staff of warders. There are no jail industries. Convicts are employed on out-door labour.

## SECTION I.—Education and Literacy.

Schools.

The State runs a well-equipped High School with an attendance roll of 200, and maintains 8 Primary Schools at Nalagarh, Manpura, Gullarwala, Bhatian, Bruna and Goha Des in the Des, and at Nalbhasra and Rajawaha in the Pahar tahsil. Education in all departments is free.

## SECTION J.—Medical.

Hospitals.

There is a well-equipped hospital at Nalagarh and a dispensary at Rawalsar, in the Pahar tahsil. The people of the adjoining territories also make use of the dispensaries. There is also at Nalagarh a veterinary hospital.

## SECTION K.—Co-operation.

Banks.

The State started a Central Co-operative Bank at Nalagarh in 1924. Its working capital on 31st July, 1931, was Rs. 71,420. There are 50 credit societies dealing with the Bank. In addition to an honorary secretary, the State employs a trained sub-inspector, a clerk, and a secretary for the inspection of the work of the societies.

# THEOG STATE, 1934.

# CHAPTER I.—DESCRIPTIVE.

## SECTION A.—General.

CHAP. I. A.

General.

THE Theog State, which is tributary to Keonthal, lies ome 17 miles from Simla between 31° 21′ and 31° 9′ north, nd 77° 21′ and 77° 31′ east. Six and a quarter miles in length nd with an average breadth of about five and a quarter niles, its area is 32·8 square miles. It is bounded on the orth by Madhan and the Mattiana pargana of Keonthal, on he east by Kumarsain and Ghund, on the south by Balsan nd Keonthal and on the west by Keonthal and Madhan. The Giri river forms its south-eastern boundary for some listance.

Physical features.

Th State consists of the Giri, Chikhar and Palana valleys f which the first two are separated from one another by the hali spur. All the three valleys contain many minor spurs, nd between these lie the villages of the State and the cultivated lands. Most of the small nallas or khads are dry for the greater part of the year but contain water during the monsoon. The highest point in the State is about 9,000 feet above sea level.

Income.

The average annual income is Rs. 32,000 and a tribute of Rs. 500 is paid annually to Keonthal.

## SECTION B.—History.

The ruling family.

The ruling family of Theog is supposed to be of common origin with those of Ghund and Madhan (*q. v.*). The founder of it according to tradition was a Chandel Rajput of Jaipur who migrated to Bilaspur. From Bilaspur the family is said to have moved after three generations to Ram Sarai in Garhwal, whence after another four generations three brothers are said to have migrated together into the Simla hills. The eldest of these, Jais Chand, became, according to tradition, the ruler of Theog, the second the ruler of Madhan, and the third the ruler of Ghund.

The chief in 1815, when the Gurkhas were expelled from the hills, was Thakur Bhup Chand who died in 1866. He was succeeded by his son Hari Chand who died in 1892. Hari Chand was succeeded on his death by his son Shamsher Chand who died in 1909. Shamsher Chand was in turn succeeded by his eldest son Thakur Padam Chand, who is the present chief.

## SECTION C.—Population.

CHAP. I. C.
—
General.

Tribes and castes.

The population of the State, according to the census of 1931, is 6,912, which gives a density of 216 per square mile. There are 31 Muhammadans in the State, and 21 Sikhs. The remainder of the population consists of Hindus. Amongst Hindus the majority of the people are Kanaits, but there are also Brahmins, Rajputs, and the usual menial classes. All the above cultivate.

Religion.

The best known seat of worship in the State is the temple of Chikhar which is situated near Shali. There are a number of other smaller temples, and religious melas are held in several villages. The Thakur is the head of the State religion.

Manners and customs.

The descriptions of manners and customs given in the gazetteers of neighbouring states, and in the Simla district gazetteer, apply equally to Theog.

Fairs.

There are no important fairs in the state but small gatherings are held in many villages on feast days.

# CHAPTER II—ECONOMIC.

## SECTION A.—Agriculture, including irrigation.

Agriculture is of the usual type in the hill States. Wheat mainly is grown at rabi, with maize at kharif, and these are the principal food grains of the zamindars and are grown for home consumption and not for sale. Potatoes are the principal money producing crop, and they grow excellently in the higher lands Preceded as a rule by a fallow they are sown in March or April and gathered in September or October ; thereafter at the next rabi wheat is sown, and this is followed by maize at the succeeding kharif. The land then lies fallow until March or April, and under this rotation the higher lands give three crops in two years. In the lower villages the fields near the habitations, which are easily manured, are sown from harvest to harvest consecutively, wheat followed by maize being the favourite rotation. In the medium zone, koda, china and kachalu are also grown at kharif but in small quantities. CHAP. II.A. — Agriculture

The total cultivated area which in 1903 was 21,608 bighas was found to have increased by settlement 1931 to 23,144 bighas, that is to say by 1,536 bighas or 7 per cent. Eighty-seven per cent. of the total cultivated area is *barani* or dependent for moisture on the rainfall. The irrigated area is mostly along the bank of the Giri.

The average rainfall, though not known exactly, must be about the same as that of Simla, *viz.*, 63 inches per annum, and it is as a rule well distributed and regular.

## SECTION C.—Forests.

The State contains 1,830 acres of demarcated forests. There are also some 1.900 acres of undemarcated forests but these at present consist mainly of open grass lands, large areas having been, disforested in the past. The demarcated forests lie between 6.000 and 8,500 feet on either side of the Indus-Ganges water-shed and include blue pine, mohru and ban oak, poplar, deodar, spruce and yew. The long-leaved pine (pinus longofolia) is found below 6.000 feet in the undemarcated forests, and alder and willow occur in the moister localities. Wild apricot, fig and pear are common throughout the State. The working scheme now in force prescribes an annual area for thinning, and also the replacement of the blue pine forests, which are mostly diseased, by valuable mixed forests Forests.

CHAP II. C. of deodar and oak. The annual revenue from the state forests has been much reduced in consequence of extensive damage by fire in 1921, but, with gradual restocking and the introduction of deodar on a large scale, a greater surplus may be looked for in future. The present (1934) net annual income is about Rs. 1,000.

## SECTION D.—Mines and Minerals.

There are no mines or minerals in Theog.

## SECTION E.—Arts and manufactures.

There are also no arts or manufactures of importance.

## SECTION F.—Commerce and trade.

The potatoes grown in the State enjoy an excellent reputation in the Simla market, and the area under this crop has increased from 2,525 bighas in 1903 to 5,594 bighas at the settlement of 1931. The yield is from 8 to 10 maunds per bigha, and the crop is sold at about 20 seers to the rupee or Rs. 2 per maund. The villagers also make a small income from the sale of grass for horses and pack animals on the Hindustan-Tibet road. The number of mules in the State at settlement 1931 was 183, and these are worked at considerable profit on the Hindustan-Tibet road—many of the owners are, however, shopkeepers.

The most important bazar in the State is that at Shali on the Hindustan-Tibet road. There are also bazars of lesser importance at Bekalti and Bani on the same road. The shopkeepers belong mostly to Kangra and Hoshiarpur.

## SECTION G.—Means of communication.

THE Hindustan-Tibet road (maintained by the Public Works Department) passes through the upper portion of the State, and there is a halting stage at Shali. Another road, maintained by the State, descends from Fagu to the Giri and runs along the valley to Kotkhai through Sainj and Parala. A third road, also maintained by the State, leaves the Hindustan Tibet road a mile beyond Shali and joins the Kotkhai road at Parala.

Postal. There is a post office at Shali.

Dak bungalows. There is a Government dák bungalow at Shali, and the State maintains a rest house at Sainj.

# CHAPTER III—ADMINISTRATIVE.

*CHAP. III. A.*

*Administrative.*

## SECTION A.—Administrative Divisions.

THE State contains 178 villages, each under its lumberdar, and these, for administrative purposes, are divided into 11 parganas. There are three zaildars.

The capital of the State is Parala, a village in the Giri valley, where the Thakur has his palace, and permanently resides.

## SECTION B.—Civil and Criminal Justice.

The courts of original jurisdiction are those of the Tika and the Wazir. The principal court is that of the Thakur but this deals chiefly with appellate work. Civil and Criminal law are administered, as nearly as may be, in accordance with the British codes. There is no tahsildar or naib-tahsildar in the State.

## SECTION C.—Land Revenue.

The first regular settlement in Theog was carried out by a Government official in 1902 when the land revenue demand was fixed at Rs. 6,800 per annum while cesses were put at Rs. 1,580. The State was again settled in 1931, by Lala Salig Ram, of the office of the Superintendent, Hill States. The karam of 54 inches was adopted as the unit of measurement, and the acre was made equal to 5·38 bighas. The total area of the State was found to be 20,208 acres out of which 21 per cent. or 4,304 acres were found to be cultivated. Of the cultivated area 13 per cent. (or 555 acres) was irrigated.

For assessment purposes the whole State was at settlement treated as one circle, and arable land was divided into classes according to quality the details of which are given in paragraph 7 of the settlement report. The average khewat or joint holding of cultivated land is 1, bighas. Sixty-seven per cent. of the total cultivated area is tilled by the owners themselves and thirty-three per cent. by tenants, including tenants working on State lands (basa). The chief was entered at settlement 1931 as the *ala malik* of all lands in the state whether cultivated or uncultivated. The cultivators were entered as *adna maliks* where they were found to have given nazrana for their lands, to hold pattas from the State and to have paid land revenue. A proper record of

CHAP. III. C.

Administrative.

rights was prepared in accordance with the system in force in the Punjab, and this is now kept up to date. The total land revenue of the state is Rs 9,444 round, of which half is collected at each harvest—this excludes Rs. 1,276 assigned, and also Rs. 2,792 revenue on State lands. Cesses at 25 per cent. on the revenue of lands other than State lands total 2,680. The rates per bigha on the different classes of land are as follows :—

| | | Rs. | A. | P. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Kalahu I | . | 0 | 12 | 0 |
| Kalahu II | ... | 0 | 10 | 0 |
| Bakhal I | .. | 0 | 8 | 0 |
| Bakhal II | .. | 0 | 6 | 4 |
| Karali I | .. | 0 | 4 | 9 |
| Karali II | .. | 0 | 3 | 9 |
| Banjar | .. | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Ghasni | ... | 0 | 1 | 0 |

## SECTION D.—Miscellaneous Revenue.

Revenue, other than land revenue and cesses, totals about Rs. 14,350. The main items are forests Rs. 1,000, begar compensation Rs. 750, and stamps Rs. 3,000. Contracts of various kinds, including Excise contracts, bring in about Rs. 7,000 per annum, and there is an income of about Rs. 700 per annum from fines.

## SECTION H.—Police and Jails.

Police.

The State police force consists of a sub-inspector and about half a dozen constables, together with a muharrir. The police station is at Shali.

Jail.

A jail is maintained by the State at Parala.

## SECTION I.—Education and Literacy.

The Arya Samaj of Simla maintain a boys school at Shali towards the expenses of which the State makes a grant. The villages of Dhamadhri and Chikhar maintain their own schools to which also the state makes a grant. The majority of the zamindars are illiterate.

## SECTION J.—Medical.

There is no hospital or dispensary in the State. Vaccination is carried out by Government agency, the state paying the cost of the lymph used.

# RAWINGARH STATE, 1934.

# CHAPTER I.—Descriptive.

## SECTION A. General.

CHAP. I. A.

General.

Rawingarh State, which is tributary to Jubbal, lies some 48 miles from Simla between 31° 7′ north and 77° 48′ east. Eight miles in length and with an average breadth of two miles, its area is sixteen square miles. It is separated on the north from the Rawin ilaqa of Keonthal by the Shilanti khad and Pabar river; and on the east is bounded by village Sansog of the Dehra Dun district; on the south it is bounded by Tharoch, and on the west by Jubbal. It has one isolated village named Salna, with some forests attached, which is bounded on the north by Dhadi, on the south by Tharoch and Dehra Dun district, and on the east by Tehri-Garhwal. Much of the state is covered by fine forests.

Physical features.

The highest point in the state is the Chhachpur Danda ridge (11,000 feet) which, forming the southern boundary of the state, separates Rawin from Tharoch. From this ridge the country, which is heavily forested, falls steeply towards the Shilanti khad (4,000 feet), with cultivation on the lower slopes.

Income.

The average annual income is Rs. 9,000. A musk pod was formerly presented annually to Jubbal as tribute, but this has now been changed into an annual payment of twelve rupees.

## SECTION B.—History.

CHAP. I. B.

History.

The state of Rawin once included a considerable tract of country on the banks of the Pabar and the Tons. It was originally a fief of Garhwal, but some years before the Gurkha invasion the easternmost or trans-Pabar portion was overrun by the Bashahris, who seized the fort of Raiengarh. The chief of the time, Rana Himmat Singh, seems to have been helped by Jubbal to retain his hold on the Cis-Pabar portion of the state; he died, however, before the Gurkha invasion. The Gurkhas in their advent took possession of the country including Raiengarh fort, and installing Runa, a brother of Himmat Singh, on the gadi, placed him in charge of the state subordinate to themselves. (Uchba, a son of Himmat Singh, is said to have accompanied the Gurkha General, Amar Singh, to Kangra, where he died). In 1815 on the expulsion of the Gurkhas by General Ochterlony a portion of the state on the east of the Pabar was handed over to Garhwal, and this is now known as Garhwal Rawain. There remained (1) the Sarachli pargana,

on the east of Pabar, containing the Raiengarh fort; (2) the villages of Batar and Katasu, west of the Pabar and north of the Shilanti khad, and (3) the area of the present Thakurai. Sarachli, Batar and Katasu were retained for the time being as British territory, but were subsequently in 1830 transferred to Keonthal in exchange for a portion of the present town of Simla. The remainder of the area mentioned was restored to Runa by a hukumnama, dated 16th March, 1816, signed by Lieutenant Ross, Assistant Agent to the Governor-General. The hukumnama recited that Jubbal had succoured Runa in the days of the Bashahr invasion, granted Runa three villages on this side of the Pabar with five or seven large and small villages attached thereto, and enjoined him to remain subject to Jubbal.

In 1823 Bairagi, who claimed to be a legitimate son of Rana Himmat Singh, disputed Runa's right to be the latter's successor. The matter was enquired into by Captain Gerard, the political agent, and he gave a decree in Bairagi's favour. Bairagi then became Thakur, and Runa having in the meantime died his sons were granted certain villages as maintenance. Their descendants are now jagirdars of the village of Nandpur.

Status of Rawin fixed by Government.

Thereafter it remained doubtful for many years whether he Thakurs of Rawin were independent chiefs, or mere jagirdars of British territory. In 1844 Mr. Erskine, Superintendent, Hill States, made a summary settlement of the tract and in 1879 the Rawin forests were leased to Government in the name of Dhian Singh, "jagirdar of Rawin," the son of Bairagi, the rent being made payable to him. Colonel Wace did not include Rawin in the Simla district settlement of 1884; on the other hand most Deputy Commissioners of Simla seem to have considered that Rawin was British territory, and the chiefs were usually described as jagirdars in official records. In 1891 under the orders of Government an elaborate enquiry into the status of Rawin, and also the adjoining tract of Dhadi, was made by Mr. W. Coldstream, Superintendent, Hill States. The question proved to be an intricate one; the Thakur or jagirdar of Rawin, Hari Chand, son of Dhian Singh, claimed to be an independent chief, or, if feudatory to any one, to Garhwal: at the same time Jubbal and Keonthal entered claims of superiority over Rawin and Dhadi which both Thakurs resisted. Eventually, in 1896, the Government of India ruled that Rawin and Dhadi were states, and not British territory, that they were independent of one another, that their rulers should be styled Thakurs and enrolled among the Simla hill chiefs, and that they were to recognise the formal superiority of Jubbal. Thakur Hari Chand

resented the latter portion of the decision, and appealed against it but without success to the Queen Empress. He died in 1904 and was succeeded by his brother, Thakur Kidar Singh, the present ruler.

## SECTION C.—Population.

The population of the state according to the census of 1931 is 939, and is wholly Hindu. Kanaits number 51 per cent., Rajputs 10 per cent., Brahmins 8 per cent. and other castes (chiefly Kolis and Turis) 30 per cent. The Rajputs are relatives of the Thakur, and belong to the Rattan Bhardwaj *got.* The Kanaits are all of the Chohan *got*, and the Brahmins of the Bhardwaj *got.* **CHAP. I, C.** **Population** Tribes and castes.

The best known seats of worship in the state are the temples of the Mahasu deota at Malog and Sar. There is also a locally celebrated temple of Kali at Dhanda where husks of rice which have been miraculously produced by the goddess are supposed to be found at intervals around the idol. Religion.

The description of manners and customs given in the gazetteer of Jubbal applies equally to Rawingarh. Manners and customs.

There are no important fairs in the state but small gatherings are held at Sar and Darkoti during the month of Asarh (July). Fairs.

# CHAPTER II.—Economic

## SECTION A.—Agriculture including Irrigation.

Agriculture is of the usual type in the hill states. Wheat, china, masoor, gala and kulth together with some tobacco and opium, are grown at rabi, with koda, bathu, mash and ginger at kharif. These, with the exception of opium, tobacco and ginger, are the principal food-grains of the zamindars, and are grown for domestic consumption and not for sale. In some of the lower villages rice is also grown for domestic consumption. CHAP. II, A. — Agriculture including irrigation.

The total cultivated area (1935) is 4,953 bighas, 92 per cent. of which is barani or dependent for moisture upon rainfall. The small irrigated area is mostly along the banks of the Shilanti and Anti khads.

The average annual rainfall is 45 inches; it is as a rule well distributed and regular. Rainfall.

## SECTION C.—Forests.

The state contains 5,829 acres of demarcated forests. There are also 1,500 acres of undemarcated forests which, however, consist mostly of open grass lands. The demarcated forests vary in altitude between 4,500 and 11,000 feet, and can be divided into three zones. Of these the lowest, extending up to about 6,500 feet, contains mainly chir (pinus longifolia) on the hot exposed slopes, while in the cooler valleys many species of ever green are found. From 6,500 to about 9,000 feet is the deodar-kail zone with some admixture of oak, spruce, and silver fir at the higher levels. Above 9,000 feet deodar disappears, and oak, spruce and silver fir alone are found. CHAP II. C — Forests.

The forests are managed under a working scheme prepared by Mr. Hamilton of the Indian Forest Service for the period of 30 years, 1930 to 1960. The scheme prescribes selection fellings every third year, certain annual thinnings, and the re-afforestation of areas destroyed by fires in 1921, the object being to improve the forests and increase the proportion of valuable species such as deodar.

The present average annual surplus from the forests is about Rs. 3,000.

## SECTION D.—Mines and Minerals.

There are no mines or minerals in Rawingarh. CHAP II, D. — Mines and Minerals.

## SECTION E.—Arts and manufacture.

CHAP. II, E. — Arts and manufacture.

There are also no arts or manufactures of importance.

## SECTION F.—Commerce and Trade.

CHAP. II, F. — Commerce and Trade.

There is no commerce or trade other than that of opium. Some quantity of this is grown at the higher levels, and is sold to dealers in the surrounding states.

## SECTION G.—Communications.

CHAP. II, G. — Communications.

Roads.

The Hatkoti-Chakrata Road skirts the eastern edge of the state but does not benefit it. A bridle path branches off this road through Rawin territory to Chhachpur, and on to Tharoch.

Postal.

There is no post office in Rawingarh, and the inhabitants use that at Sawara in neighbouring Keonthal territory.

Dak bungalows.

There is a camping ground at Rajpura, the capital of the state. The darbar maintain a rest house at Chhachpur which is about 3 miles from Rajpura.

# CHAPTER III.—Administrative.

## SECTION A.—Administrative divisions.

The state contains 11 villages with five lumberdars. One of the villages, Salna, is isolated from the remainder of the state and has its own lumberdar—see in this connection section A in chapter 1. The remaining 10 villages are divided for administrative purposes into two parganas, Shalgaon and Rathar. Shalgaon has one lumberdar, and Rathar has three. **CHAP. III.A — Administrative.**

The capital of the state is Rajpura, a village about a mile away from the Machi Gad which is the boundary with Jubbal.

## SECTION B.—Civil and Criminal Justice.

The principal court is that of the Thakur which normally deals both with original and appellate work. Minor cases are, however, sometimes heard by the wazir. Civil and Criminal Law are administered, as nearly as may be, in accordance with the British codes. There is no tahsildar or naib-tahsildar in the state. **CHAP. III,B — Civil and Criminal Justice.**

## SECTION C.—Land revenue.

The first settlement was a summary one conducted in 1844 by Mr. Erskine, Superintendent, Hill States, who imposed a cash payment at an all-round rate of Rs. 2 per maund of produce. In 1886, however, the Thakur restored the ancient system of realization partly in cash and partly in kind, a system under which the annual collections amounted to about Rs. 360 in cash, and Rs. 125 in kind, on lands other than jagirs and state lands. In 1907 difficulties arose between the darbar and the zamindars, and a regular settlement was made. At this the total revenue was fixed at Rs. 1,297-7-0 which included cesses at twenty-five per cent. Out of this, however, Rs. 524-13-0 represented revenue on state and jagir lands so that the amount recovered by the darbar was only Rs. 772-10-0. Subsequently this amount was further reduced on account of the liability of the people to athwara begar, a liability on the part of each land-owner to render thirty days service to the darbar in each year without remuneration. The present (1935) cash land revenue, including cesses, on lands other than jagirs and state lands is Rs. 650. **CHAP. III,C — Land revenue.**

According to measurements taken at the settlement of 1907 (which is still in force) demarcated forests total 5,829 acres. The remainder of the state measures 4,803 acres out of which about

926 acres are cultivated. Of the cultivated area eight per cent. is irrigated by hill streams, and the remainder is barani or dependent for moisture on rainfall.

For assessment purposes the whole state was in 1907 treated as one circle, and arable land was divided into classes according to quality the details of which are given in paragraph 54 of the settlement report. The lower castes do not for the most part own land themselves though they sometimes lease it, and also frequently work as agricultural labourers. Of the cultivated area fifty-two per cent. is owned by Kanaits, forty-three per cent. by Rajputs including the Thakur and his family, and five per cent. by Brahmins. The average size of holdings, excluding jagirs and state lands, is two acres. Of the total cultivated area fifteen per cent. is in the hands of the tenants, the remainder being tilled by the owners themselves.

The chief was entered at settlement 1907 as the ala malik, or over lord, of all lands in the state whether cultivated or uncultivated, the occupants being entered as adna maliks or inferior owners. A proper record of rights was prepared, and this is kept up-to-date. As stated, the total revenue including cesses is now Rs. 650 per annum of which half is collected at each harvest. The rates per bigha on the different classes of land are as follows :—

| | Rs. | A. | P. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Irrigated— | | | |
| Kiar I .. .. .. .. | 0 | 14 | 0 |
| Kiar II .. .. .. .. | 0 | 12 | 0 |
| Kalahu I .. .. .. .. | 0 | 10 | 0 |
| Kalahu II .. .. .. .. | 0 | 8 | 0 |
| Unirrigted— | | | |
| Bakhal I .. .. .. .. | 0 | 6 | 0 |
| Bakhal II .. .. .. .. | 0 | 4 | 0 |
| Karali I .. .. .. .. | 0 | 3 | 0 |
| Karali II .. .. .. .. | 0 | 2 | 0 |
| Banjar .. .. .. .. | 0 | 1 | 6 |
| Banjar or Ghasni .. .. .. | 0 | 1 | 0 |

## SECTION D.—Miscellaneous revenue.

CHAP. III,D — Miscellaneous revenue.

Revenue other than land revenue and cesses totals about Rs. 8,350. The main items are forests Rs. 8,000, stamps Rs. 100, and contracts of various kinds including excise contracts Rs. 100. There is an income of about Rs. 50 per annum from fines, and other miscellaneous income of Rs. 100.

## SECTION H.—Police and jail.

CHAP. III, H. — Police and jail.

The police station is at Rajpura, and the force consists of two constables under the charge of the Thakur's reader.

Prisoners also are confined at Rajpura.

## SECTION I.—Education and literacy.

CHAP. III, I. — Education and literacy.

The people are almost entirely illiterate. There is no school in the state but a few children attend the school at Sawara in Keonthal territory or the Jubbal school.

## SECTION J.—Medical.

CHAP. III, J. — Medical.

There is no hospital or dispensary in the state. Vaccination is carried out by Government agency, the state paying the cost of the lymph used.

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